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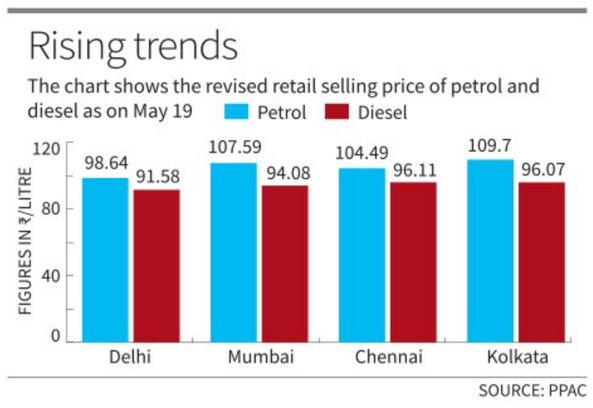
Petrol, diesel prices up 90 paise; second hike within a week



SOURCE: PPAC

Saptaparno Ghosh
NEW DELHI

Government-owned oil marketing companies (OMCs) raised the prices of petrol and diesel on Tuesday by about 90 paise a litre across the country and across all variants. This was the second increase in five days following an increase by ₹3 a litre on May 15 after four years.

On Monday, the government had said that losses being incurred by oil marketing companies from liquefied petroleum gas, petrol and diesel combined have come down by ₹250 crore to ₹750 crore following the ₹3 increase.

The government said it was not considering a bailout package for companies. Brent crude futures continue to soar amid tensions in West Asia.

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Delhi Police suggest larger SC Bench to review UAPA bail curbs

Additional Solicitor-General S.V. Raju says Supreme Court's May 18 ruling that upheld the 'bail is the rule and jail is an exception' norm overlooked the fact that under UAPA's statutory bail bar, the presumption of innocence takes a 'backseat'

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

> Under UAPA's statutory bail bar, the presumption of innocence of the accused takes a backseat. I am not opposing the interim plea, but the issue of statutory restrictions on bail under anti-terror laws requires consideration by a larger Bench in view of the two conflicting judgments
>
> **ADDITIONAL SOLICITOR-GENERAL S.V. RAJU**
> appearing for the Delhi Police

The Delhi Police on Tuesday told the Supreme Court that the question of whether prolonged incarceration and delay of trial could override the statutory restrictions on bail under anti-terror laws such as the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, may warrant consideration by a larger Bench in view of two "conflicting" judgments rendered by coordinate Benches.

The oral submission was made before a Bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and P.B. Varale at the hearing of bail petitions filed by the 2020 Delhi riots accused Abdul Khalid Saifi and Tasleem Ahmad, challenging the September 2, 2025, order of the Delhi High Court denying them bail.

Referring to a judgment delivered a day earlier by a Bench of Justices B.V. Nagarathna and Ujjal Bhuyan, which held that "bail is the rule and jail is an exception" even in prosecutions under the UAPA, Additional Solicitor-General S.V. Raju, appearing for the Delhi Police, said that the ruling may not have laid down the correct position in law.

"When there is a presumption in law, as contained in Section 43D(5) of the UAPA, which is a mandatory presumption, and the word used is 'shall', then the presumption of innocence of the accused takes a backseat...that aspect has been lost," he said.

During the hearing, Justice Kumar asked Mr. Raju whether his position was that the coordinate Bench had committed an error.

"That is going to be my submission, provided I read the judgment. I have not read the judgment because I did not have time," Mr. Raju responded. He submitted that while he was not opposing interim bail for the two accused, the broader legal issue required consideration by a larger Bench in light of the "conflicting" rulings.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Umar Khalid's petition on bail for 15 days dismissed

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Tuesday dismissed Umar Khalid's 15-day interim bail plea to attend bereavement rituals for his uncle and to care for his ailing mother. This came a day after the top court voiced "reservations" about its January decision denying him bail.

FULL STORY ON » PAGE 14

NEARBY

At Congress meet, CM attacks BJP and Modi

BENGALURU
Blaming the Centre for the increase in prices of petroleum products and the NEET paper leak, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah accused the BJP of driving a wedge between Hindus and Muslims. » PAGE 8

KH Road to be white-topped

BENGALURU
After seven months of persistent efforts, B-SMILE has finally secured partial permission from the Bengaluru Traffic Police to overhaul (white-topping and drain works) Kengal Hanumanthaiya Road, one of the most crucial connecting links in the central part of the city. » PAGE 2

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 5

Democracy, rule of law make Nordic nations, India natural partners: Modi

Suhasini Haidar
OSLO

India and the Nordic countries are committed to "democracy, rule of law and multilateralism", Prime Minister Narendra Modi said here on Tuesday, speaking after the Third India-Nordic Summit.

The summit, where Mr. Modi met leaders of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden, ended with a decision to upgrade ties between India and the five northern-most European countries to a 'Green Technology and Innovation Strategic Partnership'.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with leaders of Nordic countries at the India-Nordic Summit at Oslo City Hall, Norway, on Tuesday. AFP

In particular, they will work on initiatives for sustainable energy, maritime cooperation and polar research in the arctic region, the leaders said.

"Our shared commitment to democracy, the rule of law, and multilateralism makes us natural partners. And our shared priorities in technology and sustainability make our relationship full of opportunities," said Mr. Modi, standing with Prime Ministers of Norway (Jonas Gahr Støre), Finland (Petteri Orpo), Iceland (Kristrún Mjöll Frostadóttir), and Sweden (Ulf Kristersson) and Denmark's Acting Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen.

Mr. Modi held bilateral meetings with all the leaders in the past few days.

During the press statements, each of the leaders spoke about their vision for India-Nordic ties.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Top court nod for euthanasia of 'incurably ill, rabid dogs'

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to modify its 2025 order directing all States and Union Territories to ensure removal of stray dogs from high-footfall public institutions while clarifying that such dogs cannot be "re-released" even after vaccination and sterilisation.

A Bench of Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta and N.V. Anjaria also allowed legally permissible measures, including euthanasia in cases involving "rabid, incurably ill or demonstrably dangerous or aggressive dogs".

FULL STORY ON » PAGE 14

Transport unions call off strike after HC restrains them

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Monday restrained a federation of transport employees' unions from proceeding with the proposed indefinite strike scheduled to commence from May 20, while advising the unions and the State authorities to continue to engage in talks for resolving the dispute.

Following this, later in the day, the Joint Action Committee (JAC) announced its decision to call off the strike. In a statement, it said it would continue dialogue with the government.

What court said

A Vacation Division Bench comprising Justice Suraj Govindaraj and Justice K. Manmadha Rao passed the interim order after hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) petition filed by C. Vedavathi, a domestic help, and Sreedhara H.V., a construction worker, seeking urgent intervention against the strike call given by the Joint Action Committee of Trade Unions of Karnataka State Road Transport Corporations.

On the pleas made on behalf of some of the unions about the participation of the Transport Minister and the Chief Minister in talks for resolving the dispute, the Bench granted time to government counsel to obtain instructions regarding a possible meeting between representatives of the unions, the Transport Minister, the Chief Minister, and senior government officials, while adjourning further hearing till May 21.

The petition contended that the proposed strike would severely disrupt public life across the State, affecting nearly 1.2 crore passengers who rely daily on services operated by KSRTC, BMTC, NWKRTC and KKRTC, including daily wage workers like the petitioners.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

Lack of infrastructure a major challenge at grassroots level

With Punjab FC enjoying immense success in age-group tournaments organised by the All India Football Federation, Giuseppe Cristaldi, who is Technical Director, Youth Programme, at the club, threw light on the role that he is hoping to play in shaping a better future for the sport in this country

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

INTERVIEW

Giuseppe Cristaldi

Vivek Krishnan

At a juncture when the Indian Super League seems to be in the midst of an existential crisis, the feeling of doom and gloom about football in India may be all-pervasive. But in these bleak times, it is the exuberance of youth that one must lean towards for hope.

In this regard, Punjab FC has been making strides at the grassroots level, with its youth teams winning the premier tournaments that fall under the aegis of the All India Football Federation over the past two seasons.

The northern club, which has its academy in Mohali, has won the AIFF Elite Youth League two seasons in a row, and has emulated the same feat in the AIFF Junior League too. In addition, a few players from Punjab's academy were recently picked in the Indian team for the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) U-20 Championship. Defender Pramveer Singh was even called up by head coach Khalid Jamil to the senior India set-up last year.

The man orchestrating Punjab's success in the junior age-groups is Italian Giuseppe Cristaldi, whose official designation is Technical Director, Youth Programme. Having worked on youth development at clubs like Inter Milan and Empoli, the 39-year-old has brought his knowhow to Punjab since the start of the 2024-25 season. In an interview with *The Hindu*, Cristaldi offered his views on the progress of Punjab's academy, the different facets of youth development, and the structural issues that the game faces at the grassroots level in this country. Excerpts:

Punjab has won the AIFF Elite Youth League and the Junior League two years in a row. How do you reflect on the job done at the youth level so far?

First of all, I have to say that winning is always nice. This is a very important aspect. At the same time, at the youth level, it's not the most important thing. At our level, the priority is the players' development. It is about how they develop in order to play professional football at club level and hopefully for the senior national team.

So this has to be the priority, not only for Punjab FC but for every academy in India.

Having said that, nobody plays to lose. Whoever says winning is not important, even at the youth level, is lying. The titles are something that we are very proud of. It reinforces the good job that the club is doing at the youth level.

Beyond the titles, how do you measure whether the club is on the right track in terms of youth development?

Analysing the performances of the teams is very important for us. Another important thing in youth football is the involvement of all the players in the different competitions. In the Junior League that we just won, and even in the Elite Youth League, you will never find the same line-up from one match to another.

We need to understand how many players can contribute to the team in a competition. We usually give a chance to all the players who are part of the squad.

In the semi-final of the Junior League against Bengaluru FC, for example, we played two players who had played zero minutes in the competition until that moment.

Maybe the game will not go well, but this is a risk that we have to take as a youth setup. And then, of course, we have to make an evaluation based on the performances. But if we don't give opportunities to the players, how can we know if they are going to be good or not for the future? So this is something that for us is very, very important. I don't want a player at the end of the season to have played only a few minutes. It will not allow us to make a realistic and concrete evaluation of the future potential of the player.

What is the key to youngsters developing in the right way?

One of the main problems of Indian football is at the grassroots level. Players have to start when they are very young - when they are seven, eight or nine years old. Those are the golden years. After you pass that age, to learn certain basic movements, coordination, agility and balance, which then influence the technical aspects, become a little bit more complicated.

In the ISL, we see certain players have a bad first touch. Because those are all things that they should have learnt when they were young. If we are talking about a player who is now 26 or 27, it is likely that the work done was not correct 15 or 16 years ago.

There are many factors that can influence this. So something that we should start doing in India is to start working in a better way at the grassroots level.

When players are in their formative years, it is important that things like agility, balance and technical ability are worked on. You can start to work on tactics with players at a later stage.

It's often felt in India that there is a need to train the coaches before training the players. How have you gone about conveying your ideas to the coaches at the academy?

I have to say that I have been very lucky to have found a group of coaches who are very professional and knowledgeable. So, it has been very easy for me to

bring in my ideas and share them with the coaches. I don't want to call it philosophy because it is a word that I don't like to use. Philosophy is something that we can leave to other areas. Football is a sport. It's fun, it's engaging.

We have at least one coaching meeting per week. I follow the training sessions of all the coaches. We are constantly sharing ideas and information. The value of Indian coaches sometimes is underestimated. There are some good-quality coaches. They just need to be given certain tips to go in the right direction.

How are the kids selected in the academy?

There are certain rules of the AIFF that we need to follow. A certain number of players have to come from the state of origin of the club. We want to keep a Punjabi identity as well. I am happy to say that the Player-of-the-Tournament in the Junior League was Jasmeet Singh from Punjab. But we also have players from Kerala, Kolkata, North-East. We often organise trials all over the country. As we speak, we are having trials in 12 different States.

Our recruitment comes from scouting during competitions as well. We see certain players in other teams that we believe can be part of our academy. So, obviously, in discussion with their clubs, we see if there is the possibility of those players joining us.

When Punjab won the Dream Sports Championship last year, Norwich City was one of the teams. Minerva's youth side was in the news for beating Liverpool in April. How valuable is the exposure that Indian teams get from travelling to Europe or playing against clubs from there?

Well, I believe that the exposure abroad is very good for Indian kids just for the experience firstly. It's a life experience, which is very important.

But at the same time, we have to understand what kind of competitions we are going to play in. It is useless to put a team in a competition where the level is not challenging or not right. Just winning trophies doesn't serve the purpose.

If we play an under-15 or under-16 tournament that is seven-a-side or nine-a-side, it is not useful. It is fine for younger age categories. So, the format of the competition and opponents we play against are very important for us to decide whether we should participate in a competition.

Quite a few players from the academy were part of the Indian team for the SAFF U-20 Championship in March and April. How satisfying was that?

It's a great reward. Ultimately, all the players want to represent the national team. We had seven players called up to the India U-20 side for the SAFF Championship. There was one who got injured and could not participate in the competition. Almost 30% of the side was from our academy. It is encouraging for the future because it means we are working in the right direction as an academy. It is not just a credit to the recruitment. It also shows that the players are growing under our system in the correct way. We want to see more of this in all the age categories of the national team and hopefully in the senior national team as well.

The ISL seems to be staring at an uncertain future. Should kids from Indian academies aspire for more than just playing in the ISL?

A few years back, I felt India had taken a big step forward. As a football fan, I was admiring what India was trying to do with the ISL. There were players like Lucio, Alessandro Nesta, Marco Materazzi, Roberto Carlos, Robert Pires and Alessandro Del Piero involved. These were world-class players.

The ISL has deteriorated. We know about the problems of the league. For our players in the academy, the ISL is a realistic target. But I tell the kids in my meetings that they should target reaching a level where they are good enough for top leagues in Asia and even maybe leagues in Europe. They should have the ambition to reach a high level in their professional career.

With such a big population, it is always statistically possible for someone from India to break through to the top leagues in Asia or even somewhere in Europe. That has to be the big target for the Indian ecosystem. We need to create opportunities for players to dream about playing abroad. How much time it takes to reach that depends on many things. But this has to be the aim. This is how the Indian national team will benefit. If someone makes that jump and brings back knowledge that they can share with others, the level of everyone in the Indian system will go up.

What are the things impeding youngsters in India?

One of the things is football culture. In India, youngsters idolise cricketers mostly. In countries like Italy, England, Germany, Spain, Brazil, Argentina, you are bombarded with football from the time you are born.

Everyone has two legs, two arms, one head and one brain. So, everyone is exactly the same from the physical point of view. But the football culture counts for sure. In Europe, kids play on the streets and study football closely. When I was eight or nine years old, I knew the intricacies of the different tactical formations at Inter Milan, which was my favourite club. We knew these kind of things from a young age. This is obviously a big advantage. So, there is a big gap from the cultural point of view.

I don't believe there are issues at a physical level. When we say India, it's a very broad category. Even in India, we all know that a player from the North-East is completely different to a player from Punjab or Goa or Kerala. India is a pot of everything. So, the country has everything from a physical perspective.

What are the major challenges at the grassroots level?

Infrastructure is a problem. Many clubs don't have proper facilities where the kids can develop properly. If a football ground isn't good, the ball will not bounce properly. To develop the technical part will be more difficult for players in these circumstances.

The professional level of the coaches, especially those working at the grassroots level, is another problem. Many of the coaches work part-time. It affects the quality of the sessions, and the effort that they exert cannot be up to standard simply because they don't have time and have to feed the family. This will then reflect in the knowledge received by the players.

When you see an ISL game, what is more glaring – the lack of technical ability or tactical awareness?

From the tactical point of view, the ISL is behind, especially in certain phases of the game.

Technically, there are good-quality players around. But they have missed out on the opportunity to be better because they have not worked on the basics that are needed in their foundational phase. They are not able to perform in the way that they potentially could. This leads to mistakes that we see often in ISL, which you don't expect in a professional top-tier league.

The quality of the overseas players is not at the same level as it was a few years ago. When the likes of Del Piero and Pires were involved in the past, the Indian players were learning by just training with them. That was a big learning experience. With that not being the case anymore, it reflects in the level of the league.

KDA objects to teaching 3 languages in CBSE schools

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kannada Development Authority (KDA) has objected to a recent order issued by the Union Education Ministry making the study of three languages (R1, R2, R3) mandatory for class 9 and 10 in Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) schools with effect from July 1, 2026. The KDA further stated that the order is against the Kannada Language Learning Act, which has been in force in the State since 2015.

Purushottama Bilimale, chairman of KDA, has written to Minister of School Education and Literacy Madhu Bangarappa, urging him to prevail upon the Centre to withdraw and revise the order.

He also demanded that a comprehensive revision of the No Objection Certificate (NOC) rules be initiated.

"The Kannada Language Learning Act has made the learning of Kannada compulsory in all educational institutions in the State. This action has been taken with the aim of preserving Kannada in the State, especially in the context of the increasing number of CBSE schools, where the School Education Department's control is limited after issuing the NOC," he stated.

"There is a need to formulate legal control measures against educational institutions that violate the State's language policy," Prof. Bilimale said.

After JC Road nightmare, Kengal Hanumanthaiya Road set for white-topping

The BTP has agreed to allow the completion of drain, footpath, and utility works, and B-SMILE is likely to take up white topping work for a 1-km stretch between KH Circle and Kreeda Junction

Chetan B.C.
BENGALURU

After seven months of persistent efforts, B-SMILE has finally secured partial permission from the Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) to overhaul (white topping and drain works) Kengal Hanumanthaiya Road, one of the most crucial connecting links in the central part of the city.

However, the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) still has to clear the decks by drawing up a time-bound action plan and then seek final approval for laying the road.

As of now, the BTP has agreed to allow the completion of drain, footpath, and utility works. If everything goes as planned, B-SMILE is likely to take up white topping work for a 1-km stretch between KH Circle and Kreeda Junction within the next month.

KH Road serves as a crucial link connecting south Bengaluru to the central part of the city, besides catering to commuters from southeast Bengaluru. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

A crucial link

According to a source, the KH Road white topping project was tendered to a single contractor as part of a package when the erstwhile Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) floated tenders for four different stretches, including JC Road.

In mid-2025, even as work on JC Road dragged on, the civic body had sought permission from the BTP. However, considering the slow-paced work on the busy JC Road, which brought traffic to a standstill, the BTP did not grant permission.

A senior traffic police officer explained that KH Road serves as a crucial link connecting south Bengaluru to the central part of the city, besides catering to commuters from southeast Bengaluru. The only alternative is JC Road, which runs parallel to the stretch.

"So, it was risky to grant permission for both roads, as it could have paralysed other connecting stretches and smaller lanes as well. Despite this, commuters had to endure the slow-paced work for approximately a year, according to the officer.

Compounded worry

The BTP's concern is that the same contractor had missed multiple deadlines earlier, and if that happens again on KH Road, the upcoming monsoon could turn disastrous, as the KH double road already witnesses substantial flooding. In addition, bus movement is heavy on the stretch as it also connects to the Shanthinagar Bus Station.

However, B-SMILE officials are confident of completing the work on time. A B-SMILE source told *The Hindu* that the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has completed work on one side, while work on the second side will begin soon.

"Now, the BTP has permitted us to carry out utility works, which will commence shortly. For the white-topping work, we are preparing a four-phase action plan, which means the stretch will only be partially closed to traffic," the source explained.

Lane-wise work

The plan is for B-SMILE to take up the work lane-wise. While work is under way on one side of the lane, traffic movement will continue as usual on the other lane.

This will ensure that vehicular movement is not disrupted, but the BTP will have to ensure that traffic police personnel are deputed at the site during peak hours on all days for traffic management.

According to the source, at least six months will be required to complete the entire project, and this timeline will also be communicated to the BTP.

East, South corporations to expedite SWD works, clear encroachments

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

D.S. Ramesh, Bengaluru East City Corporation Commissioner, directed officials to expedite the works related to the strengthening of the storm-water drain (SWD) network being taken up under World Bank funding.

Against the backdrop of the impending onset of the monsoon, Mr. Ramesh instructed officials to clean the undeveloped *kutcha* drains and facilitate free flow of rainwater. He also directed officials to identify and resolve areas where flooding is persistent.

Further, he instructed officials to regularly remove silt, waste, and obstructions from the already developed SWD to ensure the smooth flow of rainwater. He went on to inspect the SWD in Yamalur, Varthur, Bellandur, Croma Road, Balagere, Kaikondrahalli, and Saulkere.

The Commissioner also visited the fire station located on Sarjapur Main Road and inspected the disaster management equipment provided under the National Disaster Management Fund (NDMF).

South Corporation

Meanwhile, Bengaluru South City Corporation officials on Monday inspected stormwater drains and waterlogging-prone areas across their jurisdiction.

Officials have been told to remove obstructions from the already developed SWD.

Commissioner K.N. Ramesh set a week's deadline to complete all monsoon preparedness works and directed officials to expedite desilting works and remove encroachments and obstructions that could hinder the free flow of rainwater.

In HSR Layout Sector 6, officials demolished an unauthorised structure built on the footpath on 17th Cross Road in the presence of the Commissioner. He instructed officials to continue clearing all such illegal encroachments in the area.

The Commissioner also directed officials to remove all road obstructions and unauthorised shopfront extensions within three days. He further asked BWSSB officials to immediately close road-cutting pits that had been left unattended after utility works.

Mr. Ramesh also inspected HSR Layout Sector 7, where roads and drains had witnessed severe water stagnation during previous rains. As a measure, road-raising and drain-improvement works are being carried out under the Chief Minister's Infrastructure Development Programme. He instructed officials to complete the works as a priority and ensure that water does not accumulate in the drains.

Further, he reviewed white-topping works and stormwater drains along Hosur Main Road, including the stretch near the Adugodi Police Station, and issued a list of directions to engineers, including removing unauthorised optical fibre cable (OFC) lines laid inside the drains and ordering that notices be issued to those responsible.

At Tavarekere Main Road, the Commissioner inspected drains and directed officials to clear waste accumulated along the drain edges. He found a hotel, located near Muneshwara Temple, allegedly discharging wastewater and sewage directly into the drain.

He ordered the hotel management to immediately disconnect the pipes releasing waste into the stormwater drain.

Farmers oppose proposed cricket stadium at Anekal

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Farmers have opposed the construction of a new international cricket stadium at Suryanagar 4th Phase in Anekal taluk, on the south-eastern outskirts of Bengaluru.

The stadium, with a seating capacity of 80,000, is billed to be the second-largest cricket stadium in the country once completed and is proposed to be built at an estimated cost of ₹943.46 crore on 70 acres of land belonging to the Karnataka Housing Board.

Local farmers have opposed the project, stating that it could be developed at a distance of just 1.5 km from the Bannerghatta National Park (BNP) and that it lies in proximity to the Karadikkal-Mahadeshwara wildlife corridor.

At a press conference on Tuesday, local farmers said that building a huge stadium in this area will have a serious and adverse impact on the environment and wildlife.

"It is hard to imagine what kind of adverse impact a huge stadium with a seating capacity of 80,000 spectators would have on the environment. The stadium's massive floodlights, cheering of spectators during the matches, the traffic congestion and commercialisation will only increase the human-animal conflict," the farmers said.

They highlighted the Supreme Court constituted Central Empowered Committee report, which has recommended restoring a 2016 draft notification and cancelling the 2020 notification, which reduces the Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) around the BNP.

According to this report, the ESZ initially proposed around BNP in the draft notification dated June 15, 2016, covering an area of 268.96 sq. km, was reduced to 181.57 sq. km and thereafter to 168.84 sq. km in the final notification dated March 11, 2020.

Members of the Karnataka Rasthra Samithi Party, who are supporting the farmers, questioned whether an Environmental Impact Assessment has been done for the project.

Raghu Janagere from the party alleged that a Cabinet Minister in the State government and a legislator have illegally acquired huge tracts of land around BNP and that the stadium is being built to increase their land value.

He added that a Special Investigation Team should be formed to probe into these allegations.

Over 170 professors, students and scholars condemn 'targeting' of students by APU

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Over 170 professors, faculty, students, scholars, civil society organisations and citizens, including Zoya Hassan, professor Emerita, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, and Gopal Pradhan, professor, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Delhi, have written an open letter to Azim Premji University (APU) seeking revocation of the suspension of students.

They have strongly condemned the "targeting of students by the APU administration" and have called upon the university to immediately revoke the suspension order and withdraw all punitive actions against the students.

They have also opined that such actions by the university will not only jeopardise the academic futures and well-being of the affected students but also undermine the university's role as a space for critical inquiry, democratic engagement, and intellectual freedom. "University education has never been confined to the four walls of the classroom," they stated.

On February 24, members of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad force-entered the APU premises protesting a student-led discussion on the Kashmir issue. FILE PHOTO

The letter further states that equally important are the conversations, debates, and forms of collective engagement that take place on campuses beyond formal academic settings. "It is through such interactions that students cultivate critical thinking, develop a sensibility towards social justice, and learn the practices of democratic participation. While the students at APU may not have followed certain university-mandated administrative procedures, such lapses cannot justify punishments that are so severe. The students' actions were part of the very intellectual and social engagement that universities are meant to foster. At a time when academic freedom in university campuses across India is being curtailed, it is imperative that university administrations defend, rather than suppress spaces for critical dialogue," it added.

It can be recalled that on May 8, APU suspended a student for two years and issued a written warning to two others, following violent incidents on the campus on February 24, when members of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) vandalised campus property and force-entered the premises protesting a student-led discussion on the Kashmir issue.

Awareness campaign

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An intensive awareness campaign on balanced use of fertilizer for vegetable cultivation was organised by ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research on Monday, at Devarakondahalli village, Gowribidanur taluk. During the programme, awareness was raised about IIHR's vegetable technologies, the specialised micronutrient formulation for vegetables, and the Arka Microbial Consortium (AMC) technology, along with their methods of application.

The programme was organised by Manjunatha Gowda D.C., senior scientist (Vegetable Science) and Ramachandran, senior scientist (Soil Science). A total of 110 vegetable growers participated in the programme, including 50 men and 60 women.

KEA app to guide students in counselling

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has developed a new mobile app called 'KEA Connect' to provide students with proper guidance on Common Entrance Test (CET-2026) counselling and to prevent the use of paid online mentors.

Steps have been taken to appoint students who participated in CET counselling in the last two years and secured seats, as well as faculty members from engineering colleges, as mentors. Each mentor can guide two students.

Students can sign in to the KEA Connect app, select their preferred mentors and receive guidance at every stage of CET counselling until admission.

A view of the Karnataka Examinations Authority building. FILE PHOTO

About 3.18 lakh students across the State have written the CET 2026 this year, and the results will be declared in a few days. Meanwhile, the KEA has begun preparations for CET counselling and seat allocation for various professional courses, including engineering.

More than 5,000 students and faculty have been onboarded as mentors. Students seeking guidance can log in to the app, select their preferred course – engineering, medicine or others – and will be matched with five mentors. Complete information of each mentor will be available, including course and college details if they are students, and institution and subject details if they are faculty, enabling users to choose the most suitable mentor," said Prasanna. H., executive director of KEA. The KEA has taken steps to assign only female mentors for female students and male mentors for male students.

The KEA has obtained declarations from mentors that they will not charge any fee or promote any college. Any changes in the counselling schedule, policies or rules will be communicated to mentors through notifications and videos on the app for dissemination to students.

International honour for HAL pilot by SETP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Group Captain K.K. Venugopal has become the first Indian test pilot to be elected as a Fellow of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots (SETP).

Gp Capt. Venugopal, who is the executive director and Chief Test Pilot (Fixed Wing), Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), has been involved in key indigenous programmes like the Saras LTA, LCA Mk I, HTT 40, HJT 36 and LCA Mk IA.

Contributions

HAL said this honour has been conferred in recognition of his contributions as an ETP throughout his career spanning over 25 years.

"The SETP represents a distinguished global community of test pilots and aerospace professionals who have made significant contributions to the advancement of flight testing. It is based in Lancaster, California, U.S. Gp Capt. Venugopal's election to this prestigious fellowship highlights his expertise and contributions to the field of aerospace testing. It also signifies recognition of the Indian aerospace sector in general and HAL as the principal entity," the defence PSU said.

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1	Setting up Common Solid Waste Recycling Facilities at V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority	1,49,33,857/-	2,98,678/-	27.05.2026
2	Repair and Renovation at Bathroom & Toilet in Type II Quarters at VOC Port	2,63,16,790/-	5,26,340/-	05.06.2026

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CHIEF ENGINEER
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Revealed: how humans evolved in the past 10,000 years alone

Even though some of the human remains the scientists examined were 18,000 years old, they were able to obtain enough genetic material to meaningfully calculate gene frequencies for the last 10 millennia alone; the study is in fact the largest survey of ancient human genomes to date

D.P. Kasbekar

People who lived and died thousands of years ago have left behind their skeletal remains as a legacy. In recent years, scientists have isolated and sequenced the DNA from more and more of these remains.

A team of researchers led by scientists at the Harvard Medical School in the U.S. has compared 15,836 ancient DNA sequences from across Western Eurasia with the sequences of 6,438 modern people from the same countries. (Western Eurasia includes Europe, Russia, Central Asia, the Middle East and Iran.)

The comparison revealed evidence that for many genes for which two sequence variants have been known, one variant had undergone a sustained increase or decrease in frequency relative to the other over the past eight to 10 millennia.

Using new statistical methods coupled with computer simulations, the team found that these changes in frequency can be attributed in many cases to natural selection rather than to processes like genetic drift and population migration. The findings were reported on April 15 in *Nature*.

The oldest remains examined were dated to 18,000 years ago – yet the scientists were able to obtain enough genetic material to meaningfully calculate gene frequencies for the last 10 millennia alone. The study is, in fact, the largest survey of ancient human genomes to date.

Around 8,000 years ago, humans began to select for gene variants in several genes that produce lighter skin tones and pigmented hair. DIGITALE.DE/UNSPLASH

THE GIST

A team of researchers led by scientists at the Harvard Medical School in the U.S. has compared 15,836 ancient DNA sequences from across Western Eurasia with the sequences of 6,438 modern people from the same countries

The comparison revealed evidence that for many genes for which two sequence variants have been known, one variant had undergone a sustained increase or decrease in frequency relative to the other over the past eight to 10 millennia

The researchers found that over the past 6,000 years, the B variant of the *ABO* gene has been occurring more commonly among the West Eurasians, with a concomitant decrease in the A variant

Carbon dating

Scientists figure out how ancient a skeleton is by measuring the relative amount of carbon-14, also known as radioactive carbon, in its bones and teeth. Carbon-14 is a carbon isotope generated when cosmic rays collide with nitrogen atoms in the earth's upper atmosphere. Its chemical properties are identical to that of the non-radioactive isotopes carbon-12 and carbon-13.

When an individual is alive, the fraction of carbon-14 in the body is the same as that in the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, and in the plants and animals consumed as food. This level begins to drop after death. Radioactive decay turns carbon-14 back into nitrogen and there is no way to replenish its level.

Carbon-14 decays with a half-life of 5,730 years. That is, the fraction of radioactive carbon relative to non-radioactive carbon halves every 5,730 years. So after 50,000 years, the fraction of radioactive carbon 14 remaining in the bones and teeth is only two-thousandth that at the time of death.

An instrument called a mass spectrometer is used to measure the relative amounts of each carbon isotope, then estimate the age of its source.

Blood types, gluten, colours

The human body has two copies of a gene called *ABO*. Each copy comes in three variants, called A, B, and O. Which combination of variants we have determines our blood type. These blood types appeared very early in evolution and we share them with other great apes.

The researchers found that over the last 6,000 years, the B variant has been occurring more commonly among the West Eurasians, with a concomitant decrease in the A variant. The A and B variants are associated with opposite effects with respect to many traits. Therefore, it may be that a population benefits by maintaining an optimal balance to respond to changing pathogenic exposures.

Similarly, a variant of the *HLA-DQB1* gene makes people susceptible to coeliac disease. In individuals with two copies of this variant, the gluten in wheat, barley, and rye triggers the immune system to attack the small intestine, leading to diarrhoea, vomiting, and abdominal pain.

In the past 4,000 years, the frequency of occurrence of the disease-causing variant has increased from 0% to 20%. Since agriculture also began 10,000 years ago, the researchers have clarified that the increase was "not a phenomenon only or largely of the rise of agriculture"

Perhaps the most interesting signals of ancient selection were found in the gene combinations today associated with 'modern' traits such as performance on intelligence tests, household income, years of schooling, and healthy lifestyle

even as they admit what could have driven the increase remains unknown.

Also around 8,000 years ago, humans began to select for gene variants in several genes that produce lighter skin tones and pigmented hair. The researchers have suggested this was an adaptation in response to having to synthesise more vitamin D in regions with low sunlight, especially among farmers whose diets supplied little of it.

Ancient genes, modern traits

Possessing two copies of the △32 variant of the *CCR5* gene makes an individual completely resistant to HIV-1 infection. The frequency of this variant among Western Eurasians increased from 2% to about 8% between 6,000 and 2,000 years ago. This predated the origin of HIV, however, which happened only in the early 20th century. Put another way, other unknown ancient pathogens must have driven this increase, as scientists have previously hypothesised.

Perhaps the most interesting signals of ancient selection were found in the gene combinations today associated with 'modern' traits such as performance on intelligence tests, household income, years of schooling, and healthy lifestyle (e.g. faster walking pace). Smoking was unknown to Eurasia until Christopher Columbus introduced tobacco from the Americas less than 600 years ago. The study found that the gene variants associated today with smoking were selected against even in those ancient times. However, it is not clear what traits governed the selection in that time.

As the researchers wrote: "it will be of interest to apply similar approaches to ancient DNA time series over longer times and to other world regions. This would allow more generalizable insights by identifying which patterns of selection are shared and which are distinctive to Holocene West Eurasia."

South Asians have genetic contributions from ancestors from Iranian Neolithic Farmers and western steppe herders; from indigenous Eastern Eurasian ancestors, including ancient ancestral South Indians; and East and Southeast Asian and Australasian ancestors. A comparable ancient DNA study of our ancestors is likely to be just as fascinating. But we need to first start assembling our own legacy: the remains of our ancestors from thousands of years ago.

(D.P. Kasbekar is a retired scientist. kasbekardp@yahoo.co.in)

BIG SHOT

A model skeleton of *Nagatitan chaiyaphumensis*, Thailand's largest dinosaur, is pictured at the Thainosaur Museum in Bangkok on May 15. Scientists identified the massive new dinosaur from remains discovered in Thailand, with the creature estimated to have weighed as much as nine adult elephants. AFP

WHAT IS IT?

Zwan-Wolf effect: stream diverter

Vasudevan Mukunth

The solar wind is a stream of charged particles flowing outwards from the sun. As the solar wind nears the magnetic field of a planet, it becomes compressed near the magnetic boundaries. This creates a difference in pressure, or pressure gradient, that squeezes the charged particles along the magnetic field, away from the stream. As a result, closer to the stream is an area with a lower density of charged particles. This is called the Zwan-Wolf effect.

In a new study published in *Nature Communications*, researchers from France, the U.K., and the U.S. used the NASA MAVEN spacecraft to find evidence of the Zwan-Wolf effect at Mars. The finding is important because Mars does not have a strong, global magnetic field like the earth. The researchers did say in their paper that the Zwan-Wolf effect is likely continuously active at Mars but that it might be too weak most of the time to be detectable by other scientific instruments.

MAVEN had recorded the data containing the effect in December 2023, when a powerful solar storm called a coronal mass ejection struck Mars. The event created intense magnetic structures in Mars's magnetic field that moved downwards into the planet's ionosphere. These structures squeezed the charged particles in the ionosphere towards the planet's unlit side, reducing the local density of the particles by around 50%.

A NASA illustration depicting the MAVEN spacecraft orbiting Mars. AP

According to the researchers, the findings indicate that even "unmagnetised" planets like Mars can experience complex magnetic phenomena like the Zwan-Wolf effect.

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Persons arrested in Turkiye on suspicion of ties with the IS

110 Turkish counter-terror police on Tuesday arrested 110 people on suspicion of activities in support of the Islamic State (IS) group in an operation largely targeting Istanbul, the Anadolu state news agency said. The suspects are accused of organising classes in illegal associations, educating young children with IS ideology, and seeking to recruit new members. AFP

Reported deaths in Eastern Congo due to Ebola outbreak

131 At least 131 deaths and over 500 suspected cases have been reported in the ongoing Ebola outbreak in eastern Congo, the Congolese Health Ministry said on Tuesday, as details emerged about the government's delayed response. Health authorities say the current outbreak is caused by the Bundibugyo virus, a rare variant of the Ebola disease. PTI

Worth of MoUs signed by Maharashtra in nuclear energy sector

6.5 in ₹ lakh crore. The Maharashtra government on Tuesday signed memoranda of understanding (MoUs) to attract investments worth ₹6.5 lakh crore in the nuclear energy sector. The MoUs were signed with NTPC Limited, Adani Power Limited, Reliance Industries Limited and Lalitpur Power Generation Company Limited. PTI

Cuts in public sector jobs by New Zealand govt. to slash spending

14 in per cent. New Zealand's government will lay off nearly 9,000 workers, amounting to 14 per cent of public sector jobs, by mid-2029 as part of a bid to slash billions in spending, Finance Minister Nicola Willis said on Tuesday. The cutbacks would save 2.4 billion New Zealand dollars (USD 1.4 billion) during that period, the minister said. PTI

Amount sought by Malaysia from Norway over axed defence deal

250 in $ million. Malaysia's defence minister on Tuesday said a notice has been sent to Norway seeking compensation of more than 1 billion ringgit ($251.76 million), after Oslo abruptly cancelled export approvals for a naval strike missile system intended for Malaysian combat ships. REUTERS

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Decoding the Musk vs. Altman verdict

OpenAI was founded as a nonprofit aiming to build ethical, open-source artificial general intelligence. Years later, Elon Musk filed a lawsuit accusing CEO Sam Altman, OpenAI president Greg Brockman, and Microsoft of manipulating him into donating to a public-interest organisation which later created a for-profit subsidiary.

EXPLAINER

Areena Arora

In 2015, a small group of researchers and technology entrepreneurs gathered in San Francisco to create what they described as a gift to humanity, eventually to turn into enemies defining the future of artificial intelligence (AI) in a courtroom.

OpenAI was founded on the premise that if artificial general intelligence (AGI) was coming regardless, it was better to have safety and ethics-conscious researchers build it. AGI is the kind of AI that can match or surpass human cognition. The group decided to create the initiative as a nonprofit and if the technology ever arrived, it would belong to everyone, as open source. OpenAI's CEO Sam Altman even went as far as to design the company's board such that it could fire him too if he ever came in the way of its core mission. That founding promise, to build ethical AGI, years later brought Elon Musk and Mr. Altman to a federal courthouse in California.

Mr. Musk brought forward the lawsuit against Mr. Altman, accusing him, OpenAI president Greg Brockman, and Microsoft, of manipulating him into donating to a public-interest organisation only for it to later attach a for-profit subsidiary and accept billions from Microsoft.

On May 18, a nine-person jury took less than two hours to throw out Mr. Musk's case against Mr. Altman. The verdict did not settle the question of whether OpenAI broke faith with its founding mission but instead, it was settled on a procedural issue - that Mr. Musk had waited too long to sue. In the American legal system, civil claims must be filed within a fixed window of time, crossing which the claim becomes invalid. The jury said Mr. Musk's claim fell outside the statute of limitations. The judge concurred, but Mr. Musk's lawyers have signalled that they might appeal. The merits of the case were never discussed.

Elon Musk's attorney Marc Toberoff outside the federal courthouse in California on May 18. REUTERS

The nonprofit debate

Trial testimony and evidence showed OpenAI's leadership had anxiously tracked Google's acquisition of another AI research giant DeepMind in 2014.

OpenAI's executives argued that the nonprofit structure was not sufficient to compete with bigshots like Google.

Mr. Musk was the company's biggest early donor, contributing around $38 million. But, the economics of building AGI turned out to be brutal. Training large models requires computing infrastructure that costs billions of dollars. By 2019, a year after Mr. Musk's departure from the OpenAI board, the company decided it could not remain competitive as a pure nonprofit. It attached a for-profit subsidiary to the existing organisation, with the nonprofit retaining oversight and a capped return structure for investors.

Microsoft came in with an initial investment that year, and kept coming, eventually investing more than $135 billion and holding a significant share in OpenAI. This is the transformation Mr. Musk's lawsuit sought to attack, from nonprofit to a commercially driven AI laboratory he had set out to oppose.

Claims that did not make it to trial

The bit that went to trial eventually was a much smaller subsect of the original claims Mr. Musk had filed in 2024. Several of his claims were dropped or narrowed before the trial even began.

Mr. Musk claimed that Microsoft's investment in OpenAI had aided it to breach its charitable mission. But, despite a Microsoft executive testifying that the company had invested billions in OpenAI, the jury dismissed the claim.

Mr. Musk also filed an antitrust claim against OpenAI and Microsoft, alleging that the two companies were colluding to dominate the AI market. This claim has not reached the jury yet. Judge Gonzalez Rogers heard arguments and signalled she was sceptical, noting the aggressive competition already playing out across the AI industry. OpenAI on its part filed a countersuit accusing Mr. Musk of running a years-long harassment campaign against the company. That case is separate and still ongoing.

Key takeaways from the proceedings

The legal question the jury resolved was procedural. But the three weeks of testimony preceding the verdict were pure Silicon Valley tech theatre.

Mr. Musk's lawyers assembled a long roster of witnesses who testified that Mr. Altman is not trustworthy. Mira Murati, who served as OpenAI's chief technology officer, told the court that Mr. Altman had lied about a safety review in the past. Ilya Sutskever, one of the company's founding researchers, had spent more than a year building a case for Mr. Altman's removal from the company, assembling a 52-page memo that described a pattern of dishonesty and internal manipulation.

In November 2023, OpenAI's board briefly fired Mr. Altman and reversed course within days. Mr. Altman returned and Mr. Sutskever eventually left the company.

OpenAI's lawyers demonstrated that while still on the board in 2017, Mr. Musk himself had pushed to restructure OpenAI as a for-profit entity, including an attempt to fold it into Tesla under his control.

Mr. Musk's argument that he had always opposed commercialisation now sat awkwardly alongside evidence that he had sought to commercialise the company himself, especially on the condition that he be in charge.

The immediate winner from the latest verdict is OpenAI. The lawsuit had cast a shadow over the company's plans for its upcoming IPO that could value it at close to a trillion dollars. There is a larger question the verdict leaves entirely unanswered. The trial showed how OpenAI's founding principles were abandoned in pursuit of competition. The nonprofit structure still exists, and the OpenAI nonprofit now controls assets of more than $200 billion. But what that oversight means in practice was not explored in court.

THE GIST

- By 2019, OpenAI decided it could not remain competitive as a pure nonprofit and attached a for-profit subsidiary to the existing organisation. This was the transformation that Elon Musk sought to challenge in court.
- The verdict did not determine whether OpenAI had abandoned its founding mission, but instead rested on the procedural finding that the lawsuit fell outside the statute of limitations.

China's new worldview and the future of global politics

Through its initiatives and its critique of the current order, China is seeking to lead multilateralism

Avinash Godbole

U.S. President Donald Trump completed his visit to the People's Republic of China on May 14 and 15, 2026, a first in nine years. The entire world watched this visit with great anticipation. However, it appears that the visit was a stalemate and little was achieved by way of progress, and the two sides are not even closer to returning to the state of managed rivalry. China frames it as "constructive strategic stability", but it seems to be unwilling to make any concessions to achieve that and puts the burden of instability squarely on the U.S.

China's strategic outlook

One of the expressions used by Chinese President Xi Jinping right at the start of his readout, that the "transformation not seen in a century is accelerating across the globe", merits special attention. While this is not the first time Mr. Xi has used this expression in front of the U.S. President, its last usage led to a binary in which the ball was in the American court to choose whether they wanted confrontation or cooperation. This time, it's a choice on whether or not the two sides can avoid a Thucydides' trap that would eventually lead them towards conflicts or confrontations.

This term made its first appearance in December 2017, during China's ambassadorial work conference, when Mr. Xi said that the world is undergoing "profound changes unseen in a century". It reflects China's assessment that the global power transition has entered its most decisive stage and China's eclipsing of the U.S. is a matter of time. Chinese analysts have assessed that China's GDP is set to bypass the United States by 2030.

The reference to a century is what makes it especially curious. China seems to be thinking that a century ago, driven by the decline of Europe across two world wars, global power made a transatlantic shift, making the U.S. the most powerful country in the world, and made liberalism its most central standpoint. Before that, the 19th century saw a different form of globalisation in the rise of colonialism and imperialism. In a similar fashion, China's rise is projected as inevitable and its rise as a norm-building power even more certain. It underpins China's confidence in ascending to what it calls its rightful place in the international system.

It seems that China views Brexit and the first election of Donald Trump as U.S. President – driven by a conservative, insecure, to a large extent supremacist and deglobalisation-driven agenda as signs of the inevitable decline of the West, the roots of which were seen in the 2008 financial crisis. After this, China emerged as a new voice of globalisation and began strongly criticising the West for its withdrawal from globalisation, just as the prosperity was beginning to spread away from traditional centres of power.

Reshaping global dynamics

Towards the goal of its rise, China has accelerated its assault on the current international order through initiatives like the Global Development Initiative (GDI) and the Global Security initiative (GSI). China is using these to discredit the U.S. led order by portraying it to be divisive and disruptive, while presenting its own approach to global security as driven by "common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable" security. Through its initiatives and critique of the current order, China is seeking to and in some cases is, leading multilateralism and south-south cooperation, while undercutting norms of the liberal order.

For countries like India, this increased power rivalry makes life more difficult. In the phase where there was a managed competition between the U.S. and China, other countries worked their way to hedge their bets between the two. However, now they are facing trade wars and tariffs, supply chain volatilities, the risks arising from the U.S.-Israel war on Iran and overall strategic instability. Add to it the rapid rise of artificial intelligence and its potential impact on the job markets, and the result is a volatile mix.

(Avinash Godbole is a Professor and Associate Academic Dean, JSLH, JGU. Views expressed are personal.)

THE GIST

- China has accelerated its challenge to the current international order through initiatives such as the Global Development Initiative and the Global Security Initiative
- During the phase of managed competition between the U.S. and China, many countries sought to hedge their bets between the two powers. However, they now face trade wars, supply chain volatility and risks from the West Asia crisis, among other factors; creating a volatile mix.

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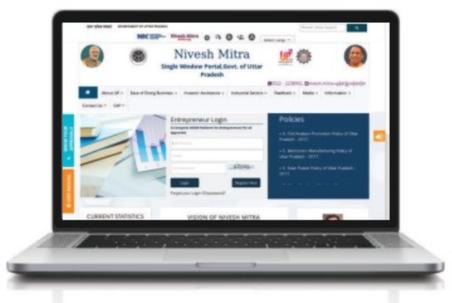

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- Delhi-Saharanpur-Dehradoon Expressway (Economic Corridor)

PROPOSED:
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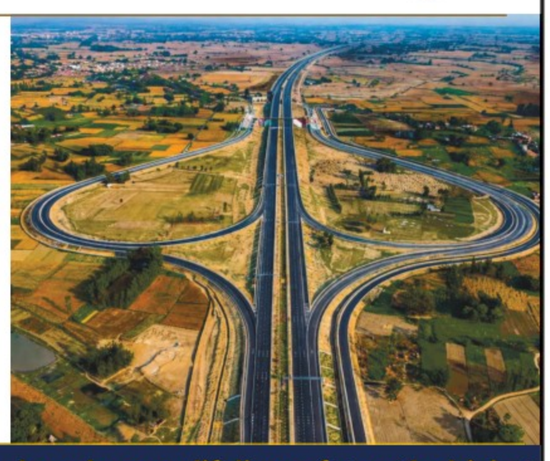
- Farrukhabad Link Expressway
- Jewar-Ganga Link Expressway
- Vindhya Expressway
- Vindhya-Purvanchal Link Expressway



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Expressways are no longer merely roads. They have become lifelines of growth, driving investment, creating opportunities, and paving the way towards a $1 trillion economy.

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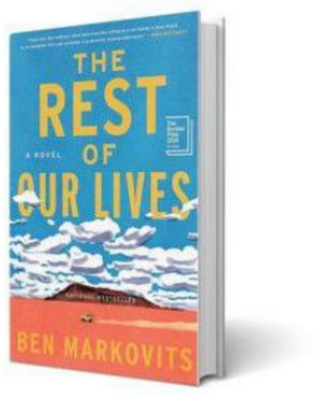

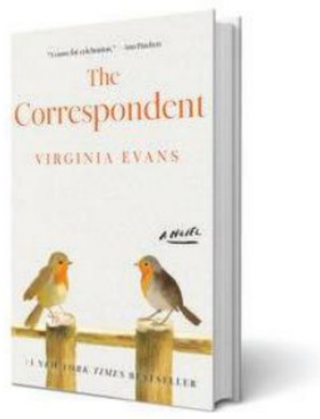

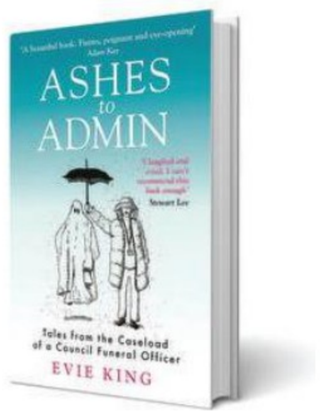

GETTY IMAGES

How death leaves behind unfinished plans and unanswered questions

In some books, neat endings and the ticking off of bucket lists are narrative devices meant to reassure us that death brings with it a reckoning. But several recent novels are less inclined to offer such comfort, instead confronting readers with the uncertainty and disorder surrounding death

Nistula Hebbar

Nothing brings as much clarity to the mind as proximity to death. As people approach the end of their lives, they write wills and make final confessions and wishes – attempts to clear away the emotional and material detritus of a life. But unlike that other inevitability in life; taxes, death does not always arrive with a neat balancing of accounts. More often, it is messy: both in form or in the many ways it approaches us, and in the things left behind – untendered apologies, undeclared love or forgiveness, unoffered explanations.

In films and some books, however, neat endings and the ticking off of bucket lists are narrative devices meant to reassure us that death brings with it a reckoning, an opportunity to leave behind a well-balanced account of one's life. Some recent reads, however, are far less interested in offering that kind of comfort.

Altering the course

In *The Rest of Our Lives*, Ben Markovits's 2025 novel that was shortlisted for the Booker Prize, the messiness of it all is laid bare in all its uneasy glory. What begins as a midlife crisis road trip gradually circles back to a New York hospital, ending in a deliberately nebulous fashion.

In language that is plain but packs a punch, the book takes us through what appears to be a midlife crisis of the protagonist Tom. His wife, Amy, had an affair in the past.

Tom promised himself then that he would leave his wife once his last child, Miri, goes off to college. "What we obviously had," says Tom in the book, "even when things smoothed over, was a C-minus marriage, which makes it pretty hard to score much higher than a B overall on the rest of your life."

Tom takes off on a road trip, first to drop his daughter off at college, and later to visit his brother, his son, and an old girlfriend – an almost self-meditative way of assessing his life, trying to resolve some things before embarking on his new spouse-less life. The book ends abruptly when Tom's facial swelling turns out to be a cancer diagnosis. It takes him to the radiation department of a hospital, with his wife in attendance, his plans of leaving her clearly upended.

Much was written by reviewers about the abruptness of the ending, but it carried, in a way, a hint of vérité – of life and death simply happening to you unexpectedly, disrupting well-laid-out plans.

The unsent letter

In a way, the book differs from *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans, also published in 2025. An epistolary novel, it is a life told through the letters of Sybil Van Antwerp, a woman in her 70s. Through lengthy and frequent correspondence, she does not leave much unsaid to her family and friends, unlike Tom in *The Rest of Our Lives*.

Sybil was a lawyer who clerked for a judge for much of her career, and even manages to find some closure in an old case she handled, marked by a miscarriage of justice.

It is her one unsent letter, hidden in the pages of Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca*, found after her death by her neighbour Theodor, that solves a mystery running like a thread through the novel. The letter is addressed to Sybil's former husband Daan, who has already died by the time it is discovered.

It explains, or tries to, the reasons their marriage imploded, the fractured relationships she had with her other children, and why, despite Daan's request, she could not bring herself to meet him at the end of his life. There are some secrets that do follow people into the grave, even for those who appear as open and reflective as Sybil in her correspondence.

It is the people left behind who need closure, as they continue to live with the questions that each death leaves unanswered. If Sybil's story explores closure through writing, Evie King's book shows what happens when closure becomes an administrative task.

Quiet departures

In *Ashes To Admin: The Caseload of a Council Funeral Officer*, the protagonist, King herself, is a council case worker in charge of pauper's graves – or, as she keeps saying throughout the book, funerals for people who die alone, whether poor or rich, who have outlived or are estranged from all their kin.

In case after case she handles, King speaks of her attempts to construct a life, a kinship and friendship network that preceded these lonely deaths. In some instances, she finds family members still living, or even a club of bike enthusiasts who can swell the numbers at the funeral parlour.

In each funeral she oversees, however, the deaths affect her and she realises she needs closure. "Befriend death, turn a light on, extinguish those shadows and live well; because that's the bit that matters," she says, embracing life.

How we handle the one certain thing in life – death – is never neat, yet it is something we all share as a human experience, even as we encounter it separately.

The transformative power of literature can illuminate that condition, but there is no manual to take us across the finish line.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Here is a quiz on the events that happened on May 20:

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1
On this day in 1873, which clothing company's founders were granted a patent for trousers reinforced with rivets—the origin of what we now call "jeans"?

QUESTION 2
Which American actor born on this day is known for his roles in films _You Can't Take It with You_, _The Philadelphia Story_, among others?

QUESTION 3
This Asian country became independent on this day in 2002. On May 20, 2002, this became the first new sovereign state of the 21st century. Name the country.

QUESTION 4
This English philosopher and political economist conceived of liberty as justifying the freedom of the individual in opposition to unlimited state and social control. Who was he?

QUESTION 5
This French novelist and playwright, whose magnum opus is _La Comédie humaine_ , was born on this day in 1799. Who was he?

Visual question: Identify this singer, who is known as the Goddess of Pop? AFP

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The motif of this satellite is present on ₹2,000 banknotes. **Ans: Mangalyaan**
2. The national emblem featured on all the banknotes. **Ans: Lion capital of Ashoka**
3. Mahatma Gandhi first appeared on banknotes on this occasion. **Ans: 1969; it was Gandhi's 100th birth anniversary**
4. This denomination currency, mostly used by businessmen and traders for high-value transactions, was introduced during the British Raj and permanently withdrawn from circulation by the Morarji Desai government. Former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan wanted to re-introduce it, but the idea was shelved. The denomination was ___ **Ans: ₹10,000**
5. This denomination shows the Konark sun temple. **Ans: ₹10**
Visual: Identify this location and also the denomination on which it is found. **Ans: Sanchi stupa, ₹200**
Early birds: Rajib Ganguly | Tamanjit Bisla | Neil Lall | Erfanally Oosmany | Barnali Biswas

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

S. Upendran

"Hi, come on in. Haven't seen you in a while. What have you been up to?"
"Oh, nothing much."
"Some things never change, eh? Weren't you supposed to go to Hyderabad to write some test or something?"
"The test has been postponed because of the floods. I wasn't planning on going, anyway. My father has discouraged me to write the exam this year. He feels...."
"....discouraged me from writing."
"What?"
"You do not say 'discouraged me to write'. Instead you...."
"... wait a minute. It's O.K to say 'He encouraged me to write', right?"
"That's right. The word 'encouraged' can be followed by 'to'. But 'discouraged' is followed by 'from' and not 'to'. You encourage someone to do something and you discourage someone from doing something."
"I see. So I have to say, the little boy was encouraged to go to school, but the young girl was discouraged from going to school."
"After the scandal many students were discouraged from talking to the Principal."
"The money lender discouraged the poor farmer from applying for a bank loan."
"Sounds like the kind of stuff we see in our movies."
"I am sure it happens in real life as well."
"I am sure it does."
"How about this example? When I was young, I was encouraged to play tennis and football."
"Sounds good. I am sure you were discouraged from seeing movies."
"You are absolutely right. Hey, look at the time. I've got to go."
"What's the hurry?"
"I've got to meet Sujatha. I've promised to her that I would meet her at 6-00."
"I have 'promised her', not 'promised to her'."
"But I have heard many people say it."
"It's true that many people say it. But it's wrong. When you use 'promise' as a verb, you 'promise someone', you do not 'promise to someone'. For example, Madan promised Kajol that he would be on time for the function."
"Anjali promised to have everything ready by 2-00 o'clock today."
"My friend Ramesh promised to help me with the homework."
"That was nice of him. Now then, shall...."
"....wait a minute! You said that the word 'promise' is not followed by 'to', right?"
"That's right."
"But what about this sentence? 'I made a promise to him.' In that sentence...."
"....the word 'promise' is being used as a noun, and not a verb. I said that you cannot 'promise to someone'. You can promise someone something, but...."
"...So sentences like 'Bala promised to Geetha' and 'Anand promised to Sunita' are wrong."
"Yes, they are wrong. You can 'promise to do something'. For example, I promised to meet him at 8-00 in the morning."
"I promised to read the book. How does that sound?"
"Sounds great."
Published in The Hindu on September 12, 2000

Word of the day

Decrepit:
worn and broken down by hard use

Synonyms: derelict, run-down

Usage: *The decrepit building was on the verge of collapse.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/ejeKIM/decrepit

International Phonetic Alphabet: /dɪˈkɹɛp.ɪt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

No threat from explosives found near PM's convoy route, forensic examination finds

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The police suspect that someone had kept the explosives as an attempt at scaremongering, and not with the intent to attack.
FILE PHOTO

Forensic examination of the box with explosives found along Prime Minister Narendra Modi's convoy to the Art of Living Ashram on Kanakapura Road on May 10 has revealed that the two gelatin sticks were at least three years old and wouldn't have caused any damage even if they had exploded.

The timer device found was also old and non-functional. There was no detonator, a key component for a bomb to explode, and the Printed Circuit Board (PCB) found in the box was unconnected.

It is not yet clear whether someone deliberately placed the box there or if it was a box of explosives meant for stone quarries that accidentally found their way to the streetside.

In this light, the National Investigation Agency (NIA), which initially joined the probe, has decided not to take over the case yet. The NIA is waiting for the local police to crack the case, detain suspects, and would take over the case only if they find these suspects to have any terror background, sources said.

The case has left the investigators puzzled. They are still groping in the dark regarding who placed the box with the explosives along Mr. Modi's convoy route and their motive, or whether it was a deliberate act at all.

The initial suspicion was that it may not have been deliberate, and someone transporting explosives to be used in the numerous stone quarries around the area may have unintentionally dropped it by the roadside. Bengaluru South police, probing the case, have checked multiple quarries not only in the district, but in the neighbouring Tamil Nadu as well, with no breakthrough in the case. While gelatin sticks are regularly used in quarry blasts, PCBs are not. Its presence in the box has raised red flags.

Unassembled

"If someone had deliberately kept it to target the Prime Minister, why not assemble the bomb? While there were explosives, circuit boards, a timer, and so on, needed to rig an Improvised Explosive Device (IED), there was no detonator, a key component of any IED. Moreover, all parts were in the box, but unassembled, ruling out any sophisticated terror attack," a senior official said.

The police suspect that someone had kept the explosives as an attempt at scaremongering, and not with the intent to attack. "It could be some miscreants trying to create panic when the Prime Minister was visiting Bengaluru, but the explosives were found near the ashram, and not in the city. There are reports of conflict between the ashram and farmers in the area. We are probing that angle as well. Right now, the case is still open, and all angles are being pursued," the official said.

Ammunition found in hotel room: NRI held

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The J.C. Nagar police have arrested a 34-year-old NRI after live ammunition and a magazine were allegedly found in a hotel room he had stayed at in Jayamahal. The accused, identified as Arman Mutaahar, had checked into a room at Jayamahal Palace Hotel on the night of April 27 along with a female friend and had checked out the next morning, the police said.

As per the complaint filed by the hotel manager, Prakash G.N., the accused later called the hotel reception claiming that he had accidentally left behind his mobile phone and a pouch containing live bullets inside the room and requested the staff to keep them safely. The hotel staff searched room no. 225 and allegedly recovered a mobile phone along with a magazine containing seven live rounds.

When he failed to return, despite repeated calls from the hotel management, the staff handed over the magazine and ammunition to the J.C. Nagar police. During questioning, the accused allegedly claimed that he had mistakenly brought the magazine and ammunition from the United States. He claimed that he is working for a private firm which worked for the army. Investigators are probing how the live bullets and the magazine were brought into India. The accused, who had come to Bengaluru to visit his sister in R.T. Nagar, was later arrested and remanded in judicial custody at Parappana Agrahara Central Prison.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, MAY. 20	
RISE 05:54	SET 18:39
RISE 09:15	SET 22:36
THURSDAY, MAY. 21	
RISE 05:53	SET 18:39
RISE 10:19	SET 23:29
FRIDAY, MAY. 22	
RISE 05:53	SET 18:40
RISE 11:19	SET 00:00

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	34	15
Mysuru	34	22
Bengaluru	33	23

Bengaluru Today
33°C The weather will be warm. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower to occur. Night will be comfortable.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
33°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be warm. Night also will be pleasant. Chances of light to moderate rain and thundershower.

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THE HINDU
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Bengaluru-Zurich flights from October

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Direct flight services from Bengaluru to Zurich, operating five times a week, will become operational from October 2026. The Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), which operates the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA), said that Swiss International Air Lines (SWISS) will launch the new non-stop flights between Bengaluru and Zurich offering customers seamless access between southern India and Zurich, with onward connections across Europe and North America through the Lufthansa Group network.

"India remains a strategically important market for the Lufthansa Group, and we are delighted to welcome Swiss International Air Lines to Bengaluru – one of the world's leading technology and innovation hubs. As our third Lufthansa Group gateway from the city, alongside Frankfurt and Munich, this new SWISS service significantly enhances connectivity for travellers from southern India," Kevin Markette, Lufthansa Group senior director – Regional Sales South Asia, said.

Supported by KIA's domestic network spanning 78 destinations, the new service will also enable efficient single-ticket transfers for passengers across tier 2 and tier 3 cities in India," Girish Nair, Chief Operating Officer, BIAL said.

Bookings from May 19

Tickets for the new route are available for sale from May 19 through swiss.com and via travel agency partners. Bengaluru is connected to five European cities: London, Paris, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, and Munich with flights operated by British Airways, Virgin Atlantic, Air France, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, and Lufthansa.

State police data centre gets ISO/IEC 27001 certification

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Police Data Centre has been awarded the internationally recognised ISO/IEC 27001 certification for Information Security Management Systems (ISMS), recognising its compliance with global standards in cyber security, data protection, and information management.

The Karnataka police said the department was among the earliest police forces in the country to operationalise a dedicated data centre for the secure storage, processing and management of departmental data and policing software applications. The centre hosts key digital policing platforms, including CCTNS, ICJS, AFIS, Cyber Crime Information Systems, Smart e-Beat, KSP Mobile App and other citizen-centric services.

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Junior Manager (Procurement Services Division)	Rajasthan, Odisha		4
Procurement Assistant	Assam, Delhi, Kashmir, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram		5

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2 inspectors booked for illegal detention, alleged extortion

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Cases have reportedly been initiated against both inspectors

The police wing of the State Human Rights Commission on Tuesday raided two police inspectors attached to RMC Yard Police Station and Kothanur Police Station after they were allegedly found illegally detaining two persons, including a city-based jeweller, without registering FIRs and demanding money and gold for their release.

Officials of the Human Rights Commission, led by Dy.SP Ashanthnarayana conducted surprise raids on both police stations around 3 p.m. on Tuesday and allegedly found the victims in unlawful custody.

According to officials, the inspector of the RMC Yard Police Station had allegedly detained Rajesh Kumar Mehta for two days without registering an FIR. Mehta was reportedly picked up based on the statement of a house break-in theft accused, who allegedly told police that he had sold stolen valuables to Mehta.

However, Mehta reportedly denied knowing the accused or purchasing any stolen gold and even offered CCTV footage to establish his innocence. Despite this, the police allegedly insisted that he hand over one kg of gold.

Separate incident

In a separate incident, the inspector of Kothanur Police Station allegedly detained Fardeen Pasha, an employee of a private firm, for nearly three days without any complaint or FIR under the pretext of an inquiry. The police allegedly demanded ₹5 lakh for his release.

Both victims were later rescued, subjected to medical examination, and their statements were recorded by Human Rights Commission officials.

Cases have reportedly been initiated against both inspectors on charges related to illegal detention, misuse of power, and human rights violations.

The officials said the two inspectors could face arrest following further inquiry.

Dubare tragedy: Elephant Marthanda dies a day after clash in Kodagu

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

A day after a fierce clash between captive elephants Kanjan and Marthanda at the Dubare Elephant Camp in Kodagu district, that claimed the life of a woman tourist from Chennai who was caught in the tussle in the Cauvery river, Marthanda, 53, who had sustained serious injuries in the attack, succumbed on Tuesday.

Kodagu district incharge Minister N.S. Boseraju expressed grief over the death of the tourist from Tamil Nadu.

The Minister announced that a compensation of ₹20 lakh would be provided to the victim's family by the Forest Department. Marthanda, a makna elephant weighing around 4,500 kg, was captured in Alur taluk of Hassan district in 2023.

The Dubare Elephant Camp near Kushalnagar in Kodagu has been closed indefinitely for visitors after a clash between captive elephants Kanjan and Marthanda. FILE PHOTO

Kanjan, a 26-year-old elephant captured near Yeslur in Hassan district in 2014, had participated in the Mysuru Dasara festivities on three occasions.

In the aftermath of the incident, Forest Minister Eshwar B. Khandre directed the Forest Department not to use Kanjan for future Mysuru Dasara celebrations.

The State government has initiated a review of safety protocols at elephant camps and is considering stricter regulations for tourists visiting such facilities.

Meanwhile, the Dubare Elephant Camp has been closed indefinitely for visitors.

SOP

The Forest Minister has ordered the preparation of a Standard Operating Procedure for visitor safety and has instructed the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden to tighten safety protocols.

Also, officials have been directed to ensure that tourists do not go near elephants and maintain a minimum distance of 100 ft while watching elephant bathing activities at all elephant camps in the State. Importantly, tourists will no longer be allowed to directly feed elephants with bananas, jaggery, sugarcane or other food items.

BMTC driver assault: 1 held, two on the run

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Hulimavu police arrested one of the three accused allegedly involved in the assault on a Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) bus driver and seized a two-wheeler allegedly used in the crime.

The accused, Abdul Shoib, 26, a bike mechanic, went on the run soon after the video went viral on social media. The police, with the help of technical evidence, tracked him down.

According to the police, the incident occurred on May 12, around 2.30 p.m. when a BMTC bus travelling from Banashankari to Bannerghatta was intercepted near Gottigere on Bannerghatta Main Road by three men riding a two-wheeler over an alleged overtaking dispute.

The accused allegedly blocked the bus, abused the driver, brandished weapons and assaulted him.

A video of the incident later went viral on social media, following which the Hulimavu police registered a *suo motu* case.

On Sunday, one of the accused was apprehended near Tippu Circle in Bilvaradahalli.

During the interrogation, the accused reportedly confessed to assaulting the BMTC driver along with his two associates.

The accused was produced before the court on Monday and was remanded in judicial custody. The police said the remaining two accused are absconding and efforts are under way to arrest them.

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY

MATERIAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

('e' Tender Notice for the supply of Stores, No.EPS/08/2026)

PCMM/WCR on behalf of the President of India invites the following advertised tenders through E-procurement System. No manual/postal offers shall be entertained. Tenders can be accessed under the link website https:/ireps.gov.in" for details and for submission of Tender.

Sr No.	Tender No.	Short Description	Tendered Qty.	Due Date
1	38261584	Coupler Body with Shank Wear Plate	14112 Nos	09.06.2026
2	30261517	Secondary spring outer for generator car side 2 for FIAT bogie of LHB coaches	629 Nos.	09.06.2026
3	8126WCR TM-01A	Rate contract (RC) for the supply of spares for Plasser make Track machines working in West Central Railway for the year 2026-27 & 2027-28 [List of Spares attached as per Annexure-1]	01 Lumpsum	09.06.2026

" For tenders with estimated value below Rs. 50 lakh, interested firms are advised to visit www.ireps.gov.in".

Sd./-
For Principal Chief Material Manager, West Central Railway, Jabalpur

स्वच्छ भारत अभियान एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II,
4th Floor, BSNL, Telephone House Builiding, Rajbhavan Road Bangalore - 560001

(See Sec. 25 to 28 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act 1993 read II Scheduld to the Income Tax Act 1961).

NOTICE FOR SETTLING A SALE PROCLAMATION

RC 429/2019 in OA No. 326/2018

Between : Karnataka Grameena Bank, (Erstwhile Kaveri Grameena Bank) Brahmasandra Gate Branch **...Certificate Holder/CHB**

And

Sri Kaduraiah & Others ...Certificate Debtors/CDRs

CDRs:

1. Mr. Kaduraiah S/o.Nagaiah, Residing at Katmala Gopaladevarahally Post, Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur Dist. - 572 125.
2. Mr. Devaraju S/o. Kaduraiah, Residing at Katmala Gopaladevarahally Post, Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur Dist. - 572 125.
3. Mr. Nagaraju S/o. Kaduraiah, Residing at Katmala Gopaladevarahally Post, Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur Dist. - 572 125.
4. Mr. Eranna K S/o. Kaduraiah, Residing at Katmala Gopaladevarahally Post, Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur Dist. - 572 125.
5. Mr. Siddaraju S/o. Kaduraiah, Residing at Katmala Gopaladevarahally Post, Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur Dist. - 572 125.
6. Mr. Ramesh S/o. Kaduraiah, Residing at Katmala Gopaladevarahally Post, Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur Dist. - 572 125.

Whereas in execution of certificate **RC No.429/2019 O.A. No: 326/2018** issued by the Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal Bangalore the undersigned has ordered the sale of the under mentioned properties.

You are hereby informed that the day on after 15th day from the date of service of this notice has been fixed for drawing up the proclamation of sale and settling the terms thereof. You are requested to bring to the notice of the undersigned any encumbrances, charges, claims or liabilities attaching to the said properties or any portion thereof.

SCHEDULE "B"PROPERTY AS PER RC OWNED BY CDs/ DEFENDANTS

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing

Item No.	Sy. No.	Acres	Guntas	Boundary	Location
1	76/2	04	00	East by :Land of Sri Krishnaiah West by: Land of Sri Lingappa North by : Land of Smt. Gangamma South by : Govt. Land	Shivapura Village Hagalawadi Hobli, Gubbi Taluk, Tumkur District.
2	27/5	00	21	East by :Land of Sri Kaduraiah West by: Land of Sri Nagegowda North by :Land of Sri Kaduraiah South by : Land of Defendants	Ketamala Village Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur District.
3	27/6	00	18	East by : Land of Sri Nagegowda West by: Land of Sri Siddaiah North by : Land of Sri Kaduraiah South by : Govt Land	Ketamala Village Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur District.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on **17.12.2025.**

Sd/- Recovery Officer-1,
DRT - 2, Bangalore

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
RESEARCH DESIGNS AND STANDARDS ORGANISATION (RDSO)
MANAK NAGAR, LUCKNOW

NOTICE FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Ministry of Railways, Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO), Lucknow, India is interested in **Development of Technical Specification for Virtual Reality (VR) based Simulator for Three Phase Electric Locomotives** along with details etc. appearing on RDSO website. Firms interested in developing and supply of said items are requested to see the details on RDSO website www.rdso.indianrailways.gov.in at HOME PAGE under Vendor Interface -> Expression of Interest (EOI).

PED/Traction

RDSO, Lucknow-226011

I I I T Bhubaneswar
Imagine. Innovate. Inspire.
(A University established by the Government of Odisha)

No.: IIIT-Bh/12545/29/Dir Date : 15.05.2026

ADMISSION (Ph.D)

IIIT Bhubaneswar is an ambitious initiative of the Government of Odisha to establish a next Generation Institute of Technology and has been conferred University status.

Application received date for **Doctoral Programme (Ph.D)** as follows :

Starting date of online application : **08th May 2026**
Last date of submission of online application : **25th May 2026**
Date of written test and interview : **28th - 29th May 2026**
Date of publication of result : **05th June 2026**
Date of provisional registration and commencement of classes : **1st July 2026**
For further details, please visit : **https://www.iiit-bh.ac.in/Admission/ph-d/**

DIRECTOR

AT : Gothapatna, PO : Malipada, Bhubaneswar - 751003, Odisha, India, Web : www.iiit-bh.ac.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of the general public that, our client has negotiated and agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from the landowners of the Schedule Property. All persons having any claim against the Schedule Property or any part thereof are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office within **07 days** from the date of publication hereof, failing which our clients shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Residentially converted land in Survey Number 78, measuring 15.08 Guntas (1568.09 Sq Meters), situated at **Chikkadunnasandra Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District,** duly converted from agricultural to non-agricultural Residential purpose on 03.11.2008, vide Official Memorandum bearing No.ALN (AS) SR 231/2007-08, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, bearing PID No.150200100100721287, issued by the Yamare Village Panchayath and bounded on the **East by: Land in Sy.No.68, West by Remaining land in Sy.No.78, North by: Land in Sy.No.77 and South by: Road.**

M/s. Jury Legal Solutions,
Advocates
No.8, 14th Cross, 14th Main,
4th Sector, HSR Layout,
Bangalore-560102. Ph : 9964999880
8904448462 / 9902195500
Bangalore Date : 19-05-2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of My client **Sri.R.Sagar S/o C.Ravi** to bring the notice of the general public that following Original registered sale deeds as : **1.** Doc.No.RRN-1-01668-2015-16, registered in the office of the sub-registrar Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bangalore & **2.** Doc.No.KEN-1-09980-2017-18, registered in the office of the sub-registrar Kengeri, Bangalore, are missing/lost/ misplaced in respect of schedule property.

If any person/s, firm, company, institution or organization has any claim are holding the afore mentioned document or schedule property, they may contact the undersigned in writing within **07 days** from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable corner property bearing **Site No.113,** Khata No.4120798, property No. 150200301700221421, formed in converted Sy.Nos.7, 11 & 14, layout known as **"A.S.V.Nandi Residency"** measuring East to West: 12.19 meters and North to South: 18.28 meters, total measuring **222.83 Sq.Meters,** situated at **Kurubarahalli Village, Chennenahalli Village Panchayath, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru District,** and bounded on :-

East by : Site No.86, West by : Road, North by : Site No.112, South by : Road

H. Prahlada, Advocate & Solicitor,
For H.P.Law, #2, 3rd Floor, Venkateshwara Complex, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore-560022
M : 7760061073

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public hereby notified that my client **Mr. V. MUNIRAJU Son of Mr. M Venkatappa,** residing at No.45/21, 15th Main Road, 17th Cross, J C Nagar, Kurubarahalli, Bangalore North, Mahalakshhmipuram Layout, Bengaluru-560 086 is the absolute owner and is in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the Property mentioned below in the Schedule. He has lost/misplaced the Original Sale Deed dated 04-02-2022, registered as document No.DSP-1-10155-2021-22, stored in CD No.DSPD945, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar Dasanapura, (Rajajinagar) Bangalore, pertaining to the Schedule Property. In this connection, an E-Complaint has also been lodged on 19-05-2026 vide **Lost Report No. 2211285/2026.** I hereby call upon the General public if anyone is in custody or possession of the same or otherwise found the above said document, kindly handover to undersigned immediately/within **07 days** and they may be suitably awarded and also I further bring into the notice of the general public that in case anyone dealing with the Schedule Property on the basis of the above said original document, it shall not be binding on my client and the same will be an offence and they are liable to punish under the Criminal and Civil Law.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of property bearing **Site No. 59** formed in northern portion of converted Sy. No. 25/1, measuring 2 Acres 20 Guntas out of 5 Acres 02 Guntas (converted from agricultural to non-agricultural residential purposes vide Official Memorandum bearing No. ALN((NDH) SR.45/2019-20, Dated 30-12-2019, by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore Urban District, Bangalore,) situated at **Venkatapura Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk. Bangalore,** the site measuring East to West **40-0 feet** and North to South **30-0 feet** in all measuring **1200 square feet** and bounded as follows:-

East By : Road; West By : Site No. 79; North By : Site No. 58; South By : Site No. 60.

KRISHNAMURTHY. P, Advocate
No.11, 1st Floor, "MEERA NIVAS"
Opp: Sai Baba Temple, North Park Road,
Seshadripuram Bangalore-500 020.
Mobile No.9740718436

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that my client **MRS.BUSI REDDY LAKSHMI,** W/o Mr. Busi Reddy Konda Reddy, aged about 34 years, residing at No.2-78, R.K.Palli, Chandrashekarapuram Mandalam, Kanigiri Taluk, Markapuram District, Andhra Pradesh-523112. is intend to Purchase the schedule property from its owners **MRS.NAZIYA SULTANA.B.A,** Aged about 44 years, W/o Mr.Shaik Mansur, Residing at No.113, 13th E Street, Shivaji Road, Shivaji Nagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore, Karnataka-560 001, Aadhaar No.9911 8423 2853

The general public are hereby notified that in case if any person/s asserting any legitimate right, objection/s or claim over the schedule property or any part thereof, they may forward such right/s or objection/s or claim/s along with the relevant documentary proof, to the undersigned with **7 days** from hereof. All such claims/objections received after **7 days** from the date of notification shall not be considered.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Residential **House No.76,** having BBMP/GBA EPID No.8789599070, Property No.8/76, situated at **4th Cross, S.I.H.S I.T.C Colony, Jeevanahalli Extension, Bangalore,** now comes under the jurisdiction of Greater Bengaluru Authority, South Division, Bangalore, measuring East to West **12 Meters** and North to South **7.95 Meters,**, in all measuring **95.4 Square meters or 1027 square Feet,** along with RCC roofed building with all civic amenities, together with all rights, appurtenance whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on:

East by : Road, West by : H No.65, North by : H No.75, South by : Road

M.R.REVANNA, Advocate
No.264, 1st Floor, Behind Ganesh Temple
Begur Road, Bommanahalli
Bangalore-560068. Ph : 99806 28324

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II, BENGALURU
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru - 560 001

WARRANT OF ATTACHMENT OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

(See Sec.25 to 28 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 read with Rule 48 to 51 of the II Schedule to the Income Tax Act, 1961)

RC 429/2019 in OA No. 326/2018

Between : Karnataka Grameena Bank, (Erstwhile Kaveri Grameena Bank) Brahmasandra Gate Branch **...Certificate Holder/CHB**

And

Sri Kaduraiah & Others ...Certificate Debtors/CDRs

CDRs:

1. Mr. Kaduraiah S/o.Nagaiah, Residing at Katmala Gopaladevarahally Post, Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur Dist. - 572 125.
2. Mr. Devaraju S/o. Kaduraiah, Residing at Katmala Gopaladevarahally Post, Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur Dist. - 572 125.
3. Mr. Nagaraju S/o. Kaduraiah, Residing at Katmala Gopaladevarahally Post, Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur Dist. - 572 125.
4. Mr. Eranna K S/o. Kaduraiah, Residing at Katmala Gopaladevarahally Post, Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur Dist. - 572 125.
5. Mr. Siddaraju S/o. Kaduraiah, Residing at Katmala Gopaladevarahally Post, Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur Dist. - 572 125.
6. Mr. Ramesh S/o. Kaduraiah, Residing at Katmala Gopaladevarahally Post, Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur Dist. - 572 125. **....CDs**

Whereas, the above named Certificate Debtors were ordered through the above referred Recovery Certificate to pay to the Applicant Bank (Certificate Holder) a sum of **Rs.14,05,474/-** (Rupees Fourteen Lakhs Five Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Four Only) together with interest and costs as stated in the RC till the date of realization and whereas the said sum has not been paid by the CDRs/you.

This is to command you to attach the immovable property of the said Certificate Debtors as set forth in the schedule hereunto annexed, or which shall be pointed out to you by the said Certificate and unless the said Certificate Debtors shall pay to you the above said sum as per R.C. and costs of this attachment, to hold the same until further orders from the Recovery Officer.

You are further commanded to return the warrant on or before **18.02.2026** with an endorsement certifying the day on which and the manner in which it has been executed, or why it has not been executed.

SCHEDULE "B"PROPERTY AS PER RC OWNED BY CDs/ DEFENDANTS

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing

Item No.	Sy. No.	Acres	Guntas	Boundary	Location
1	76/2	04	00	East by :Land of Sri Krishnaiah West by: Land of Sri Lingappa North by : Land of Smt. Gangamma South by : Govt. Land	Shivapura Village Hagalawadi Hobli, Gubbi Taluk, Tumkur District.
2	27/5	00	21	East by :Land of Sri Kaduraiah West by: Land of Sri Nagegowda North by :Land of Sri Kaduraiah South by : Land of Defendants	Ketamala Village Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur District.
3	27/6	00	18	East by : Land of Sri Nagegowda West by: Land of Sri Siddaiah North by : Land of Sri Kaduraiah South by : Govt Land	Ketamala Village Bukkapatna Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur District.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on **17.12.2025.**

Sd/- Recovery Officer-1,
DRT - 2, Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

I am investigating the title of the lands situated at **Srinivasapuram and Dodda Munimangala Village, Ambajidurga Hobli, Chintamani Taluk,** belonging to the respective owners as detailed in the table below.

Any person/ having objection to the above mentioned transaction or any person/s claim or demand in relation the Schedule property or any part thereof, may lodge his/her/their statement/s objection/s and/ or claim/s or demand in relation the schedule property or any part thereof, may lodge his/her/their statement objection/s and/or claims/s in writing along with documentary evidence in support thereof with the undersigned, within **10 (Ten) days** from the date of publication of this notice. In the absence of any genuine and/or rightful objection and/or claims, I will issue my report on title in respect of the Schedule property, as if no claim/s or objection/s exist and that they have been consciously waived and abandoned by such person/s.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Lands in item hereunder, situated at Srinivasapura Village, Ambajidurga Hobli, Chintamani Taluk.

Sl. No	Survey No	Extent		East By	West By	North by	South by	Present Owner
		Acre	Guntas					
1	Sy No. 3/1	1	17	Sy No.45/5	Gramatana	Sy No. 46/1	Sy No. 3/2	Sri. D.B. Srinivasa Rao S/o Sri. D.S.Naidu.
2	Sy No. 3/2	1	12	Sy No.45/5	Sy No.54	Sy No. 3/1	Land belongs to Sri. Gopal Reddy	Sri. D.B. Srinivasa Rao S/o Sri. D.S.Naidu.
3.	Sy No. 3/3		14	Sy No.3/5	Sy No.54	Sy No. 3/2	Sy No. 3/4	Sri. D.B. Srinivasa Rao S/o Sri. D.S.Naidu.
4	Sy No. 3/5		14	Sy No.3/6	Sy No.3/3	Sy No. 3/2	Sy No. 3/4	Sri. D.B. Srinivasa Rao S/o Sri. D.S. Naidu.
5	Sy No. 3/6		14	Sy No.45/2	Sy No.3/5	Sy No. 3/2	Sy No. 3/4	Sri. D.B. Srinivasa Rao S/o Sri. D.S. Naidu.
6	Sy No. 45/2		15.12	Sy No.45/3	Sy No.3/6 & Sy No. 3/4.	Sy No. 45/5	Sy No. 45/1	1).Sri. Kiran Banu Vuppalapatti, 2) Smt. Sridevi. V.
7	Sy No. 45/3		16	Sy No.45/4	Sy No.45/2	Sy No. 45/5	Sy No. 45/1	1).Sri. Kiran Banu Vuppalapatti, 2) Smt. Sridevi. V.
8	Sy No. 45/4		15.12	Naga sandra Border	Sy No.45/2	Sy No. 45/5	Sy No. 45/1	1).Sri. Kiran Banu Vuppalapatti, 2) Smt. Sridevi. V.
9	Sy No. 46/1	3	2	Sy No.46/1	Gramatana	Sy No. 33/1 & 33/3.	Sy No. 3/1	Sri.D.B.Srinivasa Rao S/o Sri. D.S.Naidu.
10	Sy No. 46/2	1	2	Naga sandra Border	Land belongs to Sri. D. B. Srinivasa Rao	Sy No. 33/1 & 33/3.	Sy No. 3/1	Sri.D.B.Srinivasa Rao S/o Sri. D.S.Naidu.
11	Sy No. 54	1	--	Land belongs to Sri. Gopal Reddy and Sri. Adam Sab & Sri. Bahusab	Chinta-mani to Bagepalli P.W.D Road	Grama tana/Srini-vasapuram (Usmanu-ra) Village	Chintamani to Bagepalli P.W.D Road	Sri.D.B.Srinivasa Rao S/o Sri. D.S.Naidu.

Lands situated at Dodda Munimangala Village, Ambajidurga Hobli, Chintamani Taluk.

Sl. No	Survey No.	Extent		East By	West By	North by	South by	Present Owner
		Acre	Guntas					
1	Sy No. 33/1	1	20	Nagasandra Village Boundary & Sy No. 33/2 and Sy No. 33/3	Land belongs to Malik S/o Chotusab	Land belongs to Sri. D.B. Srinivasa Rao	Srinivasapuram Village Border and Property belongs to Sri. D.B. Srinivasa Rao, Smt. Sridevi V & Sri. Kiran Banu Vuppalapatti	Sri. D.B. Srinivasa Rao S/o Sri. D.S. Naidu.
2	Sy No. 33/2	1	24	Nagasandra Village Boundary	Sy No.33/1	Land belongs to Sri. Bakshusabi	Sy No. 33/1.	1).Sri. Kiran Banu Vuppalapatti, 2) Smt. Sridevi.V.
3.	Sy No. 33/3	-	25	Nagasandra Village Boundary (Bandidari)	Sy No.33/1	Sy No. 33/1	Srinivasapuram Village Border & Sy No.46/1 & 46/2.	1).Sri. Kiran Banu Vuppalapatti, 2) Smt. Sridevi.V.

For NAYARKODI ASSOCIATES,
Dhiraj Nayarkodi, Advocate
#62, 5th Main, AECS Layout Sanjaynagar Main Road, Bangalore-560094.
Branch Office at 7th Floor, High Point IV, Palace Road, Bangalore, Ph: 9886755278
Date: 20.05.2026 Place: Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of the General Public that my client has irretrievably lost/misplaced the original document i.e., i. Registered Sale deed dated.24/05/1963, as document No.1018/1963-64, ii. Registered Sale deed dated.24/05/1963, as document No.1019/1963-64, and iii. Registered Sale deed dated.20/05/1963, as document No.549/1986-87, in respect of Property bearing Sy No.97/2, situated at **KORULURU Village, Kasaba Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore**

My client has made a Police compliant to Hoskote City Police, Bengaluru Rural, through **online dated.28/04/2026, its Serial No.2176774,** for Missing of above said documents If any persons get the information regarding said misplace original documents or found the document please kindly inform the undersigned.

P. NAGAMUNI REDDY,
Advocate, SNN Associates,
No.248, 2nd Floor, 10th Main,
1st Block, 100 Feet Road, HRBR Layout,
Kalyan Nagar, Bengaluru – 560043,
Land Mark – Near Horamavu Signal,
Above Canara Bank & HDFC ATM.
M : 99451 59840

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client **Sri. K. Giri Babu** intends to purchase the schedule property from **Smt. Sujatha B.S. W/o Mr. Narayanaswamy Venkataswamy** who had purchased the **same under a registered sale deed dated 02-06-2012 registered as Document No. JPN-1-01887-2012-13 stored in CD No. JPND165 executed by G. Ravikumar and V. Narayanaswamy who have previously purchased the same under a Certificate of Sale issued by the Government of Karna-taka (Co-Operative Department) registe-red as Document No. JPN-1-02150-2010-11 in CD No. JPND71 in consequence to the Decree No. JRD/UBF/1742/2009-10 dated 17-11-2009, CEP No. ARBII(45)CEP/989/2009-10 Dt 12-01-2010 wherein The Bharath Co-Operative Bank Ltd is the Decree holder and Smt. K.N.Rekha is the Judgment Debtor. Earlier Smt. K. N. Rekha had purchased the schedule property from BDA under a registered sale deed dated 14-06-2007 registered as Document No. BDA-1-02265-2007-08 stored in CD No. BDAD127 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore Urban District.**

Therefore it is requested the general public who have any claim over the schedule property or objection for the proposed purchase shall lodge such claim/objection in writing along with supporting documents with the undersigned **within Fifteen days** from the date of publication of this notice. If no such claim or objection is received, my client will complete the deal as proposed. Time barred claim/objection if any will not be binding on my client.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the **vacant Site No. 681,** formed by the Bangalore Development Authority at Further Extension of Banashankari 6th Stage, 4th 'T' Block, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 9.00 Meters and North to South: 6.00 Meters in all measuring 54 Sq. Meters and bounded on: **East by: Site No. 644, West by: Road, North by: Site No. 680, South by: Site No. 682.**

P.Mahalinga Bhat and Srividya P.M,
Advocates,
Office Address: No.2386,T F-2, 3rd Floor,
Keerthi Kuteeram Apartment, Pipeline Road, K.S. Layout, Bangalore – 78
Mobile - 9341215791
Bangalore/Dated : 19-05-2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public is hereby informed that our client is desirous of entering into certain transaction with below mentioned Landowners, with respect to the immovable properties situated at Kalkere Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, more fully described in the Schedule hereunder ("Schedule Property"). The Owners have represented that they are the absolute owners of the Schedule Property with full right, title or interest and authority to deal with and convey the same and that no other person/s has/have any right, title or interest whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property.

Public is hereby notified that any person having any right, title, claim or interest of whatsoever nature in respect of the Schedule Property are hereby called upon to notify the undersigned in writing together with supporting documentary evidence within 15 (Fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice.

If no such claims are received within the aforesaid period, it shall be deemed that the Owners have clear and marketable title over the Schedule Property and our client shall proceed with the intended transaction with the Owners with regard to the Schedule Property as if no such claims exist or if the same have been waived or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Sl. No	Sy. No	Extent in Guntas	Owner Name	East	West	North	South
1	169/2	6 Guntas	K.S Likith S/o K P Sriram & K.S Chaithra D/o K P Sriram	Sy No. 168	Sy No. 170	Sy No. 169/1	Sy No. 169/3 & Road
2	170/1	4 Guntas	K.S Likith S/o K P Sriram & K.S Chaithra D/o K P Sriram	Sy No. 169 & Road	Sy No. 171	Nala	Sy No. 170/2
3	171/1	4 Guntas	K.S Likith S/o K P Sriram & K.S Chaithra D/o K P Sriram	Sy No. 170 & Road	Sy No. 172	Nala	Sy No. 171/3
4	172/1	3 Guntas	K.S Likith S/o K P Sriram & K.S Chaithra D/o K P Sriram	Sy No. 171 & Road	Sy No. 173	Nala	Sy No. 172/2
5	173/1	5 Guntas	K.S Likith S/o K P Sriram & K.S Chaithra D/o K P Sriram	Sy No. 172 & Road	Sy No. 174	Nala	Sy No. 173/2
6	174/1	4 Guntas	K.S Likith S/o K P Sriram & K.S Chaithra D/o K P Sriram	Sy No. 173 & Road	Sy No. 175	Nala	Sy No. 174/2
7	175/6	5 Guntas	K.S Likith S/o K P Sriram & K.S Chaithra D/o K P Sriram	Sy No. 174 & Road	Sy No. 176	Sy No. 175/2	Sy No. 175/5
8	183/4	20 Guntas	K.S Likith S/o K P Sriram & K.S Chaithra D/o K P Sriram	Sy No. 162	Sy No. 169	Sy No. 183/4	Sy No. 183/3
9	177/2	11 Guntas	Aruna C, D/o Chikkaveerappa, Kiran C S/o Chikkaveerappa & P. Lakshmi W/o Narendra Kumar	Sy No. 176 & Road	Sy No. 178	Sy No. 177/3	Sy No. 177/1
10	246/2	27 Guntas	M. Basavaraju S/o K Madappa, Shivakumari W/o Basavaraju M, Hariprasad B S/o Basavaraju M, Kavyashree W/o Hariprasad B	Sy No. 245/2 (Old Sy No.245)	Sy No. 248	Sy No. 246/3 & 247/1	Sy No. 246/1
11	245/2	6 Guntas	M. Basavaraju S/o K Madappa, Shivakumari W/o Basavaraju M, Hariprasad B S/o Basavaraju M, Kavyashree W/o Hariprasad B	Sy No. 244/2 & 244/1	Sy No. 246/2	Sy No. 245/3	Sy No. 245/1
12	245/3	0.08 Guntas	M. Basavaraju S/o K Madappa, Shivakumari W/o Basavaraju M, Hariprasad B S/o Basavaraju M, Kavyashree W/o Hariprasad B	Sy No. 244/1	Sy No. 246/3	Sy No. 245/4	Sy No. 245/2
13	244/1	11 Guntas	M. Basavaraju S/o K Madappa, Shivakumari W/o Basavaraju M, Hariprasad B S/o Basavaraju M, Kavyashree W/o Hariprasad B	Sy No. 243/3, 243/2 & 243/1	Sy No. 245/3, 245/4, 245/5 & 245/6	Nala	Sy No. 244/2
14	179/5	10.08 Guntas	D H Ramanjinappa alias D.H. Dhruva Ramanji S/o Dodda Hanumanthappa, Sreedevi R W/o D.H Ramajinappa, Shilpa U W/o Naveen Narasappa K, CJ Shobha W/o M.K Kotegowda, Manjunath Nalwad S/o Shrishylappa Nalwad, Abdul Wahab S/o Abdul Waheed, Tauseef Zahra W/o Abdul Wahab, Venkateswara Rao Dasari S/o Subba Rao Dasari, Venkata Subba Reddy Dubba S/o Dubba Ramaswamy Reddy, Joginder Singh Rahi S/o Pritam Sing, Anju Sansoa D/o Joginder Singh Rahi, Mohan C S/o Channaraju A	Sy No. 178/5	Sy No. 241/5 & 180/5	Sy No. 179/4	K Channasandra Boundary
15	180/5	8.08 Guntas	D H Ramanjinappa alias D.H. Dhruva Ramanji S/o Dodda Hanumanthappa, Sreedevi R W/o D.H Ramajinappa, Shilpa U W/o Naveen Narasappa K, CJ Shobha W/o M.K Kotegowda, Manjunath Nalwad S/o Shrishylappa Nalwad, Abdul Wahab S/o Abdul Waheed, Tauseef Zahra W/o Abdul Wahab, Venkateswara Rao Dasari S/o Subba Rao Dasari, Venkata Subba Reddy Dubba S/o Dubba Ramaswamy Reddy, Joginder Singh Rahi S/o Pritam Singh, Anju Sansoa D/o Joginder Singh Rahi, Mohan C S/o Pritam Singh	Sy No. 179/2 & 179/3	Sy No. 241/4 & 241/3	Sy No. 180/4	Sy No. 241/4 & 179/3
16	241/5	3.08 Guntas	D H Ramanjinappa alias D.H. Dhruva Ramanji S/o Dodda Hanumanthappa, Sreedevi R W/o D.H Ramajinappa, Shilpa U W/o Naveen Narasappa K, CJ Shobha W/o M.K Kotegowda, Manjunath Nalwad S/o Shrishylappa Nalwad, Abdul Wahab S/o Abdul Waheed, Tauseef Zahra W/o Abdul Wahab, Venkateswara Rao Dasari S/o Subba Rao Dasari, Venkata Subba Reddy Dubba S/o Dubba Ramaswamy Reddy, Joginder Singh Rahi S/o Pritam Sing, Anju Sansoa D/o Joginder Singh Rahi, Mohan C S/o Channaraju A	Sy No. 179/5	Sy No. 242/4 & 242/5	Sy No. 241/4	K Channasandra Boundary
17	168/1	0.04 Guntas	D H Ramanjinappa alias D.H. Dhruva Ramanji S/o Dodda Hanumanthappa, Sreedevi R W/o D.H Ramajinappa, Harish S/o Late. Munikaverappa, K.V Narasimha Reddy S/o Venkateswaralu. P. Lakshmi W/o Narendra Kumar	Sy No. 168/3	Sy No. 169/1	Sy No. 168/2	Sy No. 168/3
18	168/2	27.04 Guntas	D H Ramanjinappa alias D.H. Dhruva Ramanji S/o Dodda Hanumanthappa, Sreedevi R W/o D.H Ramajinappa, Harish S/o Late. Munikaverappa, K.V Narasimha Reddy S/o Venkateswaralu. P. Lakshmi W/o Narendra Kumar	Sy No. 168/3	Sy No. 169/1	Sy No. 168/2	Sy No. 168/3
19	173/4	10 Guntas	D H Ramanjinappa alias D.H. Dhruva Ramanji S/o Dodda Hanumanthappa, Sreedevi R W/o D.H Ramajinappa, Harish S/o Late. Munikaverappa, K.V Narasimha Reddy S/o Venkateswaralu. P. Lakshmi W/o Narendra Kumar	Sy No. 172/4	Sy No. 174/3 & 174/4	Sy No. 173/3	Channasandra Village Boundary
20	174/4	7 Guntas	D H Ramanjinappa alias D.H. Dhruva Ramanji S/o Dodda Hanumanthappa, Sreedevi R W/o D.H Ramajinappa, Harish S/o Late. Munikaverappa, K.V Narasimha Reddy S/o Venkateswaralu. P. Lakshmi W/o Narendra Kumar	Sy No. 173/4	Sy No. 175/2 & 175/1	Sy No. 174/3	Channasandra Village Boundary
21	175/3	5 Guntas	D H Ramanjinappa alias D.H. Dhruva Ramanji S/o Dodda Hanumanthappa, Sreedevi R W/o D.H Ramajinappa, Harish S/o Late. Munikaverappa, K.V Narasimha Reddy S/o Venkateswaralu. P. Lakshmi W/o Narendra Kumar	Sy No. 174/3	Sy No. 176	Sy No. 175/4	Sy No. 175/2
22	178/5	9.08 Guntas	D H Ramanjinappa alias D.H. Dhruva Ramanji S/o Dodda Hanumanthappa, Sreedevi R W/o D.H Ramajinappa, Harish S/o Late. Munikaverappa, K.V Narasimha Reddy S/o Venkateswaralu. P. Lakshmi W/o Narendra Kumar	Sy No. 177/1	Sy No. 179	Sy No. 178/4	Channasandra Village Boundary
23	183/2	9.04 Guntas	D H Ramanjinappa alias D.H. Dhruva Ramanji S/o Dodda Hanumanthappa, Sreedevi R W/o D.H Ramajinappa, Harish S/o Late. Munikaverappa, K.V Narasimha Reddy S/o Venkateswaralu. P. Lakshmi W/o Narendra Kumar	Road	Sy No. 169/1	Sy No. 183/1	Sy No. 168/2
24	242/5	3 Guntas	Assetz Value Homes East Pvt Ltd	Sy No. 241/5	Sy No. 243/5	Sy No. 242/4	Channasandra Village Boundary
25	243/5	5 Guntas	Assetz Value Homes East Pvt Ltd	Sy No. 242/5 & 242/4	Sy No. 244/2	Sy No. 243/4	Channasandra Village Boundary
26	177/1	8,175 Sq.ft	M Harish, Aruna C, Anvitha H, Rakshitha H & Mahantha H	Sy No 176	Site No 8	Road & Sy No 177/2	Channasandra Village Boundary
27	179/2	10.08 Guntas	K C Basavaraju S/o Late. Chikkakempaiah & Bhagya R W/o K C Basavaraju	Sy.No.178/2 & 178/3	Sy.No.180	Sy No 179/1	Sy No 179/3
28	241/3	3.08 Guntas	Manjunatha K C S/o Chikkakempaiah, Kanakarathna W/o Manjunatha, Nandiesh K M S/o Manjunatha C & Vanitha K M D/o Manjunatha C	Sy.No.180	Sy.No.242/3	Sy.No.241/2	Sy.No.241/4
29	242/3	3 Guntas	Manjunatha K C S/o Chikkakempaiah, Kanakarathna W/o Manjunatha, Nandiesh K M S/o Manjunatha C & Vanitha K M D/o Manjunatha C	Sy.No.241/3 & 241/4	Sy.No.243/3 & 243/4	Sy.No.242/2	Sy.No.242/4
30	243/3	5 Guntas	Manjunatha K C S/o Chikkakempaiah, Kanakarathna W/o Manjunatha, Nandiesh K M S/o Manjunatha C & Vanitha K M D/o Manjunatha C	Sy.No.242/3	Sy.No.244/1 & 244/2	Sy.No.243/2	Sy.No.243/4
31	178/2	9.08 Guntas	Shivashankarappa K C S/o Chikka Kempaiah, B K Annapurna W/o Shivashankarappa K C , Harshitha S D/o Shivashankarappa K C & Brundha S D/o Shivashankarappa K C	Sy No. 177/2 & 177/3	Sy No. 179/1	Sy No. 178/1	Sy No. 178/3
32	245/4	2.04 Guntas	Krishnamurthy K.P S/o Puttappa, Kamalakshi W/o K P Krishnamurthy & Manoj K S/o K P Krishnamurthy	Sy No. 244	Sy No. 246	Remaining portion of Sy No. 245	Remaining portion of Sy No. 245
33	247/1	3.08 Guntas	Krishnamurthy K.P S/o Puttappa, Kamalakshi W/o K P Krishnamurthy & Manoj K S/o K P Krishnamurthy	Sy No. 246	Sy No. 248	Remaining portion of Sy No. 247	Sy No. 246
34	246/4	2 Guntas	Krishnamurthy K.P S/o Puttappa, Kamalakshi W/o K P Krishnamurthy & Manoj K S/o K P Krishnamurthy	Sy No. 245	Sy No. 247	Sy No. 246	Remaining portion of Sy No. 246
35	246/6	2.08 Guntas	K P Mahesh S/o Puttappa, Nagarathna W/o K P Mahesh, Madhu K.M S/o K P Mahesh, Chaithra S W/o K Madhu, Naveen M S/o K P Mahesh, Mamatha D W/o M Naveen, Mamatha D/o K P Mahesh	Sy No. 245	Sy No. 247	Nala	Sy No. 246
36	245/6	2.08 Guntas	K P Mahesh S/o Puttappa, Nagarathna W/o K P Mahesh, Madhu K.M S/o K P Mahesh, Chaithra S W/o K Madhu, Naveen M S/o K P Mahesh, Mamatha D W/o M Naveen, Mamatha D/o K P Mahesh	Sy No. 244	Sy No. 246	Nala	Sy No. 245
37	247/3	3.04 Guntas	K P Mahesh S/o Puttappa, Nagarathna W/o K P Mahesh, Madhu K.M S/o K P Mahesh, Chaithra S W/o K Madhu, Naveen M S/o K P Mahesh, Mamatha D W/o M Naveen, Mamatha D/o K P Mahesh	Sy No. 246	Sy No. 248	Nala	Sy No. 247
38	246/3	20 Guntas	Munilakshmamma W/o Putappa Madamma W/o Mallanna, Papamma D/o Puttappa, Pillamma D/o Puttappa, Lakkamma D/o Puttappa, K P Mahesh S/o Puttappa, Rathna D/o Puttappa, Savithramma D/o Puttappa, K P Shankarappa S/o Puttappa, K P Krishnamurthy S/o Puttappa, Kempamma K P D/o Puttappa, Madhulakshmi D/o Puttappa	Sy.No.245	Sy.No.247	Sy.No.246 & 247	Sy.No.246
39	180/3	8.08 Guntas	Shivappa K C S/o Late Chikkakempaiah Latha S W/o Shivappa K C	Sy.No.179/1 & 179/2	Sy.No.241/2	Sy No 180/2	Sy No 180/4
40	245/5	2.04 Guntas	K.P Shankarappa S/o Puttappa , Sumithramma W/o K.P Shankarappa, Vijay Kumar S S/o K.P Shankarappa, Anitha W/o Vijay Kumar S, Karthik S S/o K.P Shankarappa, Vinutha E W/o Karthik S	Sy No. 244	Sy No. 246	Sy No. 245	Sy No. 245
41	246/5	2.08 Guntas	K.P Shankarappa S/o Puttappa , Sumithramma W/o K.P Shankarappa, Vijay Kumar S S/o K.P Shankarappa, Anitha W/o Vijay Kumar S, Karthik S S/o K.P Shankarappa, Vinutha E W/o Karthik S	Sy No. 245	Sy No. 247	Sy No. 246	Sy No. 246
42	247/2	3.04 Guntas	K.P Shankarappa S/o Puttappa , Sumithramma W/o K.P Shankarappa, Vijay Kumar S S/o K.P Shankarappa, Anitha W/o Vijay Kumar S, Karthik S S/o K.P Shankarappa, Vinutha E W/o Karthik S	Sy No. 246	Sy No. 248	Sy No. 247	Sy No. 247
43	169/3	30 Guntas	K H Madakumar S/o Chikka Hanumanthappa, R Mahalakshmi W/o K H Madakumar K M Harshith Mahadev S/o K H Madakumar & K M Rohith Mahadev S/o K H Madakumar	Sy No.166 & 168/4	Sy No.170/3, 170/4 & 170/5	Sy No.169/2	Channasandra Village Boundary
44	170/4	3.04 Guntas	K H Madakumar S/o Chikka Hanumanthappa, R Mahalakshmi W/o K H Madakumar K M Harshith Mahadev S/o K H Madakumar & K M Rohith Mahadev S/o K H Madakumar	Sy No.169/3	Sy No.171/2 & 171/5	Sy No.170/3	Sy No.170/5
45	171/4	2 Guntas	K H Madakumar S/o Chikka Hanumanthappa, R Mahalakshmi W/o K H Madakumar K M Harshith Mahadev S/o K H Madakumar & K M Rohith Mahadev S/o K H Madakumar	Sy No.170/2	Sy No.172/2	Sy No.171/3	Sy No.171/5
46	172/3	5.08 Guntas	K H Madakumar S/o Chikka Hanumanthappa, R Mahalakshmi W/o K H Madakumar K M Harshith Mahadev S/o K H Madakumar & K M Rohith Mahadev S/o K H Madakumar	Sy No.171/5	Sy No.173/3	Sy No.172/2	Sy No.172/4
47	183/1	9.04 Guntas	K H Madakumar S/o Chikka Hanumanthappa, R Mahalakshmi W/o K H Madakumar K M Harshith Mahadev S/o K H Madakumar & K M Rohith Mahadev S/o K H Madakumar	Govt Road and Sy. No. 162	Sy No.169/1	Sy No.183/3	Sy No.183/2
48	173/3	9 Guntas	K H Manjunath S/o Chikkahanumanthappa Shakuntala H W/o K H Manjunath, K M Sanjana Mahadev D/o K H Manjunath	Sy No. 172/2 & 172/3	Sy No. 174/2 & 174/3	Sy No. 173/2	Sy No. 173/4
49	174/3	8 Guntas	K H Manjunath S/o Chikkahanumanthappa Shakuntala H W/o K H Manjunath, K M Sanjana Mahadev D/o K H Manjunath	Sy No. 173/3 & 173/4	Sy No. 175/4, 175/3 & 175/2	Sy No. 174/2	Sy No. 174/4
50	175/4	5 Guntas	K H Manjunath S/o Chikkahanumanthappa Shakuntala H W/o K H Manjunath, K M Sanjana Mahadev D/o K H Manjunath	Sy No. 174/2 & 174/3	Sy No. 176	Sy No. 175/5	Sy No. 175/3
51	170/5	14 Guntas	Muniraj M S/o Doddamdappa, Bhagyamma W/o Muniraj M , Viswambara M S/o Muniraj M, Nethravathi S W/o Viswambara M Chidambara M S/o Muniraju M Shashikala C R W/o Chidambara M Gangashree Raghunath D/o M Muniraj	Sy No. 169/3 and Road	Sy No. 171/2, 171/5, 171/6 & 171/7	Sy No. 170/4	Village Boundary
52	243/2	5 Guntas	Renukamma D/o K Madappa, Nandish S S/o Sanjeevappa, K Mahadesh S/o Kaverappa M & D H Sunil Kumar S/o Dodda Hanumanthappa	Sy.No. 242	Sy.No. 244	Sy No. 243/1	Sy No 243/3
53	166	36 Guntas	M. Puttaswamy S/o Late Madappa, Radha B W/o M Puttaswamy Rakshith P, S/o M Puttaswamy & Rithish P, S/o M Puttaswamy	Sy No. 165, 167 & Road	Sy No. 169	Sy No. 168	Channasandra Village Boundary
54	171/6	2 Guntas	M. Puttaswamy S/o Late Madappa, Radha B W/o M Puttaswamy Rakshith P, S/o M Puttaswamy & Rithish P, S/o M Puttaswamy	Sy No. 170 & Road	Sy No. 172	Sy No. 171/5	Sy No. 171/7
55	175/2	5 Guntas	M. Puttaswamy S/o Late Madappa, Radha B W/o M Puttaswamy Rakshith P, S/o M Puttaswamy & Rithish P, S/o M Puttaswamy	Sy No. 174 & Road	Sy No. 176	Sy No. 175/3	Sy No. 175/1
56	172/4	5.08 Guntas	K Ravi Kumar S/o Kempanna	Sy No. 171 & Road	Sy No. 173	Sy No. 172/3	Channasandra Village Boundary
57	176	20 Guntas	Revanna M S/o K Madappa	Sy No. 175/1, 175/2, 175/3, 175/4, 175/5 & 175/6	Sy No. 177/1, 177/2 & 177/3	Lake	Channasandra Village Boundary
58	168/3	27.04 Guntas	Revanna M S/o K Madappa	Govt Road	Sy No. 168/1, 169/1 & 169/2	Sy No. 168/1 & 168/2	Sy No. 168/4
59	167/4	9.04 Guntas	Revanna M S/o K Madappa	Govt Road & SyNo162	Sy No. 166	Sy No. 167/5	Sy No.167/3
60	170/2	3.08 Guntas	Roopa K D/o Kantharaj K.G	Sy.No. 169 & Road	Sy No. 171	Sy No. 170/1	Sy No. 170/3
61	165/5	15.08 Guntas	M Sampoorna W/o Vijaykumar, Varun V S/o Vijaykumar & Monika V D/o Vijaykumar	Sy.No.165/4 & Road	Sy.No.166	Sy.No.167	Channasandra Village boundary
62	167/2	9.04 Guntas	Shankar Nayak S/o Kondappa Nayak	Road	Sy No 166	Sy No 168/4	Sy 167/1
63	171/2	2 Guntas	Shankar Nayak S/o Kondappa Nayak	Connecting Road	Sy No 171/5	Halla	Village boundary
64	177/1	12 Guntas	Sushelamma B, W/o Late Kaverappa, Ch&rashekar K S/o Late Kaverappa & M Harish S/o Late Muni Kaverappa	Sy No. 176	Sy No. 178	Sy No 177/2	Village boundary
65	177/3	16.00 Guntas	M Akkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Muni Anjanamma W/o M Akkappa, Mamatha A D/o M Akkappa, Shashikala W/o Mahadevaiah, Prerana M D/o Mahadevaiah, Manmatha A S/o M Akkappa , Kusuma N W/o Manmatha, A. Maruthi S/o M Akkappa, M Akshatha W/o A Maruthi, Ashwath Narayana S/o M Akkappa, Dhananjaya A S/o M Akkappa, Lakshmi S W/o A Dhananjaya, Sudhanva A S/o M Akkappa, Shruthi K W/o Sudhanva A	Sy No176	Sy No 178/1 & 178/2	Nala	Sy No177/2
66	178/3	9.08 Guntas	M Akkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Muni Anjanamma W/o M Akkappa, Mamatha A D/o M Akkappa, Shashikala W/o Mahadevaiah, Prerana M D/o Mahadevaiah, Manmatha A S/o M Akkappa , Kusuma N W/o Manmatha, A. Maruthi S/o M Akkappa, M Akshatha W/o A Maruthi, Ashwath Narayana S/o M Akkappa, Dhananjaya A S/o M Akkappa, Lakshmi S W/o A Dhananjaya, Sudhanva A S/o M Akkappa, Shruthi K W/o Sudhanva A	Sy No 177/2	Sy No 179/2	Sy No 178/2	Sy No 178/4
67	179/3	10.08 Guntas	M Akkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Muni Anjanamma W/o M Akkappa, Mamatha A D/o M Akkappa, Shashikala W/o Mahadevaiah, Prerana M D/o Mahadevaiah, Manmatha A S/o M Akkappa , Kusuma N W/o Manmatha, A. Maruthi S/o M Akkappa, M Akshatha W/o A Maruthi, Ashwath Narayana S/o M Akkappa, Dhananjaya A S/o M Akkappa, Lakshmi S W/o A Dhananjaya, Sudhanva A S/o M Akkappa, Shruthi K W/o Sudhanva A	Sy No 178/4	Sy No 180/5 & 241/4	Sy No 179/2 & 180/5	Sy No 179/4
68	241/1	3.08 Guntas	M Akkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Muni Anjanamma W/o M Akkappa, Mamatha A D/o M Akkappa, Shashikala W/o Mahadevaiah, Prerana M D/o Mahadevaiah, Manmatha A S/o M Akkappa , Kusuma N W/o Manmatha, A. Maruthi S/o M Akkappa, M Akshatha W/o A Maruthi, Ashwath Narayana S/o M Akkappa, Dhananjaya A S/o M Akkappa, Lakshmi S W/o A Dhananjaya, Sudhanva A S/o M Akkappa, Shruthi K W/o Sudhanva A	Sy No 180/1 & 180/2	Sy No 242/1 & 242/2	Nala	Sy No 241/2
69	242/1	3.00 Guntas	M Akkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Muni Anjanamma W/o M Akkappa, Mamatha A D/o M Akkappa, Shashikala W/o Mahadevaiah, Prerana M D/o Mahadevaiah, Manmatha A S/o M Akkappa , Kusuma N W/o Manmatha, A. Maruthi S/o M Akkappa, M Akshatha W/o A Maruthi, Ashwath Narayana S/o M Akkappa, Dhananjaya A S/o M Akkappa, Lakshmi S W/o A Dhananjaya, Sudhanva A S/o M Akkappa, Shruthi K W/o Sudhanva A	Sy No 241/1	Sy No 243/1	Nala	Sy No 242/2
70	243/1	5.00 Guntas	M Akkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Muni Anjanamma W/o M Akkappa, Mamatha A D/o M Akkappa, Shashikala W/o Mahadevaiah, Prerana M D/o Mahadevaiah, Manmatha A S/o M Akkappa , Kusuma N W/o Manmatha, A. Maruthi S/o M Akkappa, M Akshatha W/o A Maruthi, Ashwath Narayana S/o M Akkappa, Dhananjaya A S/o M Akkappa, Lakshmi S W/o A Dhananjaya, Sudhanva A S/o M Akkappa, Shruthi K W/o Sudhanva A	Sy No 242/1	Sy No 244/1	Nala	Sy No 243/2
71	178/4	9.00 Guntas	Chandrakala D/o Patalaiah, Madhusudhana P S/o Patalaiah, Nirmala P W/o Madhusudhana P, Kavya M S D/o Madhusudhana P, Pruthvi M D/o Madhusudhana P, Murulidhara K P S/o Patalaiah, Sharadha W/o Murulidhara K P, Priyanka M D/o Murulidhara K P, Prashanth M S/o Murulidhara K P, Manohara Patalaiah S/o Patalaiah, Lavanya L W/o Manohara P, Gajendra A S/o Anjinappa, Nalina D/o Anjinappa, Sharanabasappa Wali S/o Gurappa Wali, Mallamma W/o Gurappa Wali, Chandrashekar K S/o Kaverappa	Sy No 177/1	Sy No 179	Road & Sy No 178/3	Sy No 178/5
72	180/4	9.00 Guntas	Chandrakala D/o Patalaiah, Madhusudhana P S/o Patalaiah, Nirmala P W/o Madhusudhana P, Kavya M S D/o Madhusudhana P, Pruthvi M D/o Madhusudhana P, Murulidhara K P S/o Patalaiah, Sharadha W/o Murulidhara K P, Priyanka M D/o Murulidhara K P, Prashanth M S/o Murulidhara K P, Manohara Patalaiah S/o Patalaiah, Lavanya L W/o Manohara P, Gajendra A S/o Anjinappa, Nalina D/o Anjinappa, Sharanabasappa Wali S/o Gurappa Wali, Mallamma W/o Gurappa Wali, Chandrashekar K S/o Kaverappa	Sy No 179/2	Sy No 241/2 & 241/3	Sy No 180/3	Sy No 180/5
73	167/3	9.04 Guntas	K C Pilla Madappa S/o Chikkamadappa, Muniswamy Kalkere Soubhagya Lakshmi W/o KC Pilla Madappa , M. Gajendra S/o KC Pilla Madappa, Shalini T G W/o Gajendra,	Road & Sy. No. 162	Sy No.166	Sy No 167/4	Sy No 167/1
74	171/7	2.00 Guntas	K C Pilla Madappa S/o Chikkamadappa, Muniswamy Kalkere Soubhagya Lakshmi W/o KC Pilla Madappa , M. Gajendra S/o KC Pilla Madappa, Shalini T G W/o Gajendra,	Sy No 170/5	Sy No 172/4	Sy No 171/6	Channasandra village boundary
75	175/1	5.00 Guntas	K C Pilla Madappa S/o Chikkamadappa, Muniswamy Kalkere Soubhagya Lakshmi W/o KC Pilla Madappa , M. Gajendra S/o KC Pilla Madappa, Shalini T G W/o Gajendra,	Sy No 174/4	Sy No 176	Sy No 175/2	Channasandra village boundary
76	167/5	9.04 Guntas	Lakkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Umadevi alias Maheshwaramma w/o Lakkappa, K L Madesh S/o Lakkappa, Bhargavi W/o Madesh, Hithyshi M S/o Madesh, Ramesh L S/o Lakkappa, Suma W/o Ramesh	Govt Road & Sy No. 162	Sy No. 166	Sy No. 167/2	Sy No. 167/4
77	168/4	27.04 Guntas	Lakkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Umadevi alias Maheshwaramma w/o Lakkappa, K L Madesh S/o Lakkappa, Bhargavi W/o Madesh, Hithyshi M S/o Madesh, Ramesh L S/o Lakkappa, Suma W/o Ramesh	Road & Sy No. 162	Sy No. 169/2 & 169/3	Sy No. 168/3	Sy No. 167
78	170/3	3.04 Guntas	Lakkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Umadevi alias Maheshwaramma w/o Lakkappa, K L Madesh S/o Lakkappa, Bhargavi W/o Madesh, Hithyshi M S/o Madesh, Ramesh L S/o Lakkappa, Suma W/o Ramesh	Road, Sy No. 169/2 & 169/3	Sy No. 171/4 & 171/5	Sy No. 170/2	Sy No. 170/4
79	171/3	2 Guntas	Lakkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Umadevi alias Maheshwaramma w/o Lakkappa, K L Madesh S/o Lakkappa, Bhargavi W/o Madesh, Hithyshi M S/o Madesh, Ramesh L S/o Lakkappa, Suma W/o Ramesh	Road, Sy No. 170/1 & 170/2	Sy No. 172/2	Sy No. 171/1	Sy No. 171/4
80	171/5	16 Guntas	Lakkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Umadevi alias Maheshwaramma w/o Lakkappa, K L Madesh S/o Lakkappa, Bhargavi W/o Madesh, Hithyshi M S/o Madesh, Ramesh L S/o Lakkappa, Suma W/o Ramesh	Road, Sy No. 170/2, 170/3, 170/4, 170/5 & 171/2	Sy No. 172/2, 172/3 & 172/4	Sy No. 171/2 & 171/4	Sy No. 171/2 & 171/6
81	172/2	7 Guntas	Lakkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Umadevi alias Maheshwaramma w/o Lakkappa, K L Madesh S/o Lakkappa, Bhargavi W/o Madesh, Hithyshi M S/o Madesh, Ramesh L S/o Lakkappa, Suma W/o Ramesh	Road & Sy No. 171	Sy No. 173/1, 173/2 & 173/3	Sy No. 172/1	Sy No. 172/3
82	173/2	8 Guntas	Lakkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Umadevi alias Maheshwaramma w/o Lakkappa, K L Madesh S/o Lakkappa, Bhargavi W/o Madesh, Hithyshi M S/o Madesh, Ramesh L S/o Lakkappa, Suma W/o Ramesh	Road & Sy No. 172	Sy No. 174/2	Sy No.173/1	Sy No. 173/3
83	174/2	7 Guntas	Lakkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Umadevi alias Maheshwaramma w/o Lakkappa, K L Madesh S/o Lakkappa, Bhargavi W/o Madesh, Hithyshi M S/o Madesh, Ramesh L S/o Lakkappa, Suma W/o Ramesh	Road & Sy No. 173	Sy No. 175/4 & 175/5	Sy No. 174/1	Sy No. 174/3
84	175/5	5 Guntas	Lakkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Umadevi alias Maheshwaramma w/o Lakkappa, K L Madesh S/o Lakkappa, Bhargavi W/o Madesh, Hithyshi M S/o Madesh, Ramesh L S/o Lakkappa, Suma W/o Ramesh	Road & Sy No. 174	Sy no. 176	Sy No. 175/6	Sy No. 175/4
85	183/3	9.08 Guntas	Lakkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Umadevi alias Maheshwaramma w/o Lakkappa, K L Madesh S/o Lakkappa, Bhargavi W/o Madesh, Hithyshi M S/o Madesh, Ramesh L S/o Lakkappa, Suma W/o Ramesh	Road & Sy No. 162	Sy No. 169/1	Sy No. 183/4	Sy No. 183/1
86	244/2	11 Guntas	Lakkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Umadevi alias Maheshwaramma w/o Lakkappa, K L Madesh S/o Lakkappa, Bhargavi W/o Madesh, Hithyshi M S/o Madesh, Ramesh L S/o Lakkappa, Suma W/o Ramesh	Sy No. 243/3, 243/4 & 243/5	Sy No. 245/1 & 245/2	Sy No. 244/1	Channasandra Village Boundary
87	245/1	6.08 Guntas	Lakkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Umadevi alias Maheshwaramma w/o Lakkappa, K L Madesh S/o Lakkappa, Bhargavi W/o Madesh, Hithyshi M S/o Madesh, Ramesh L S/o Lakkappa, Suma W/o Ramesh	Sy No. 244/2	Sy No. 246/1 & 246/2	Sy No. 245/2	Channasandra Village Boundary
88	246/1	27 Guntas	Lakkappa S/o Doddamadappa, Umadevi alias Maheshwaramma w/o Lakkappa, K L Madesh S/o Lakkappa, Bhargavi W/o Madesh, Hithyshi M S/o Madesh, Ramesh L S/o Lakkappa, Suma W/o Ramesh	Sy No. 245/1	Sy No. 248	Sy No. 246/2	Channasandra Village Boundary
89	178/1	9.08 Guntas	KP Parvathamma @ Parvathamma D/o S Patalappa	Sy No. 177/3	Sy No. 179/1	Nala	Sy No. 178/2
90	179/1	10.08 Guntas	KP Parvathamma @ Parvathamma D/o S Patalappa	Sy No. 178/1 & 178/2	Sy No. 180/1, 180/2 180/3 & 178/2	Nala	Sy No. 179/2
91	180/2	8.08 Guntas	Kishore Deewani S/o Pessulal Dewani	Road and Sy No. 179	Sy No. 241	Sy No. 180/1	Sy No. 180/3
92	241/2	3.08 Guntas	Kishore Deewani S/o Pessulal Dewani	Sy No. 180/2, 180/3 & 180/4	Sy No. 242/2	Sy No. 241/1	Sy No. 241/3
93	242/2	3 Guntas	Kishore Deewani S/o Pessulal Dewani	Road and Sy No. 241	Sy No. 243	Sy No. 242/1	Sy No. 242/3
94	169/4	5 Guntas	N.S Shashikala Prakash W/o R.V Prakash, Venkatesh J S/o Jayaram, Ambrish A V S/o Venkategowda A N	Sy No. 183	Sy No. 170/2	Remaining Portion of Sy No. 169/1	Sy No. 169/2
95	169/1	10 Guntas	N.S Shashikala Prakash W/o R.V Prakash, Venkatesh J S/o Jayaram, Ambrish A V S/o Venkategowda A N	Sy No. 183	Sy No. 170/2	Nala	Remaining Portion of Sy No. 169/1
96	180/1	4.04 Guntas	Assetz Value Homes East Pvt Ltd	Sy No.179/1	Sy No.

‘Discrepancies can be discussed only after draft rolls are published’

Chief Electoral Officer V. Anbu Kumar dismisses fears of arbitrary deletions and asserts that the Special Intensive Revision is aimed at identifying and including all eligible voters

INTERVIEW

V. Anbu Kumar

Rishita Khanna
BENGALURU

Whether Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in Karnataka will trigger “logical discrepancies” will be known only after the draft electoral rolls are published, Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer V. Anbu Kumar said, in an interview with *The Hindu*, dismissing fears of arbitrary deletions and asserting that the exercise is aimed at identifying and including all eligible voters.

Edited excerpts:

What exactly are you referring to when you say SIR will be done as per protocol? Is there a written protocol?

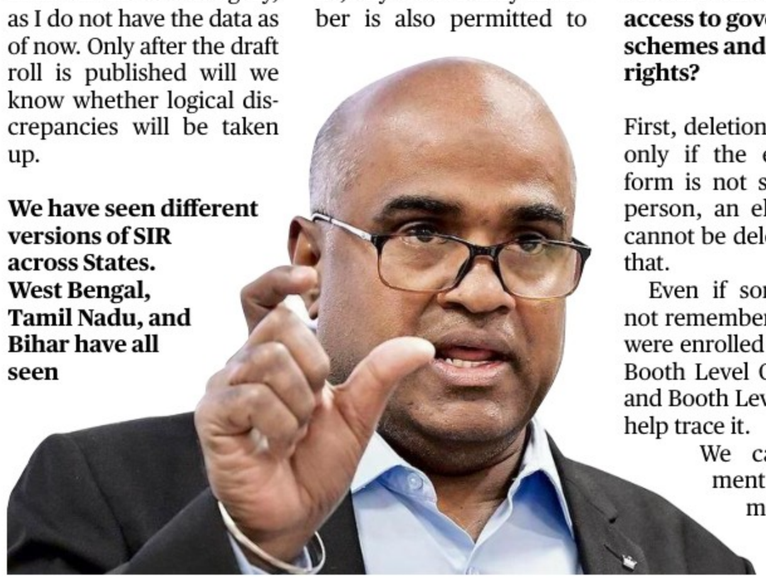
By protocol, I mean the guidelines given by the Election Commission of India. These guidelines state how the SIR will begin, what the provisions are, and what the Representation of the People Act, 1950, says that permits the Election Commission to undertake this exercise. So yes, there is a step-by-step procedure for every aspect.

We saw in West Bengal that “logical discrepancies” came up as a category later during the exercise. Should people in Karnataka be prepared for any such additional categories as the process moves forward?

I can say this only after the draft roll is published. It depends on the data people provide during the enumeration phase. Whoever submits the enumeration form back will have their names included in the draft rolls.

If there is any difference between the information submitted in the enumeration form and the data available in the electoral roll of 2002, that is a discrepancy. I cannot comment on this as a category, as I do not have the data as of now. Only after the draft roll is published will we know whether logical discrepancies will be taken up.

We have seen different versions of SIR across States. West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, and Bihar have all seen different versions. What exactly are Karnataka voters looking at here?



Chief Electoral Officer V. Anbu Kumar. K. MURALI KUMAR

The only difference is in Annexure 3 of the enumeration form. In Bihar, only the elector can sign the form, whereas in other States, including Karnataka, any adult family member is also permitted to sign. This is the key change. Beyond this, there is no other change.

If a person’s name is deleted in Karnataka under SIR, what does that actually mean for them? Is it only about not being able to vote, or can it affect their access to government schemes and other rights?

First, deletion will happen only if the enumeration form is not submitted. A person, an eligible voter, cannot be deleted just like that.

Even if someone does not remember where they were enrolled in 2002, the Booth Level Officer (BLO) and Booth Level Agent will help trace it.

We cannot comment on government schemes. Unless the enumeration form is not submitted, or there are claims regarding eligibility, such as citizenship issues or duplication of names, deletion will not happen.

If someone misses submitting the form, they can still file Form 6 along with Declaration D.

Migrant labourers, transgender persons, and daily-wage workers move across States for work, and many have had their identity records changed over the years. Are they automatically at a greater risk of deletion because they cannot show continuity in documents?

No. Enumeration forms will be served using the 2025 electoral roll; the 2002 roll is only being referred to as the last SIR data. Forms will only be delivered to the addresses listed in the current roll. If a house is locked, the BLO has been instructed to visit three times and leave the form there.

In case of name changes or other subsequent updates, supporting documents can be submitted when a notice is served, if at all served.

Your booklet says that if an Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) or Assistant Electoral Registration Officer (AERO) doubts a person’s eligibility due to non-submission of documents “or otherwise”, they can initiate a *suo motu* inquiry and refer suspected foreign national cases to the competent authority. What does “or otherwise” mean, who is this competent authority, and will such cases go before any tribunal?

If the ERO is not satisfied with any data, a notice can be issued.

“Otherwise” means complaints or any other doubts regarding eligibility. In such cases, the ERO can initiate an enquiry to verify facts based on the notified documents. Any notice issued will clearly mention the reason.

Regarding competent authority, appeals against an ERO’s order lie first with the District Magistrate, which here is the Deputy Commissioner, and then with the Chief Electoral Officer of Karnataka. These are the two appellate authorities provided under the Act. There will be no tribunal.

Lag in Booth Level Agent appointments

One agent is expected for each polling station; Congress and BJP have appointed only about half the required number of 59,050, as per official data

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Even as political parties have raised concerns over the proposed Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, their response in appointing Booth Level Agents (BLAs) across Karnataka has remained uneven.

Election officials said BLAs play a key role in coordinating with Booth Level Officers (BLOs) during electoral roll revision exercises and in facilitating communication between political parties and election authorities. While BLAs do not interfere in the registration process, they help identify discrepancies in electoral rolls at the polling station level.

Although one BLA is expected for each polling station, the Congress and BJP together have so far appointed only about half the required number of 59,050, according to official data.

Booth Level Agents play a key role in coordinating with Booth Level Officers during electoral roll revision exercise and in facilitating communication between political parties and election authorities.

The Congress has appointed 28,848 BLAs across Karnataka, while the BJP has named 25,827 agents. The Janata Dal (Secular) has appointed 811 BLAs. Other recognised parties, including the AAP, BSP, NPP and CPI(M), have not reported any appointments so far.

However, representatives of these parties have disputed the official figures. Congress leaders claimed their party was leading in appointments, while the BJP maintained that it had appointed more than 40,000 BLAs.

The JD(S) said it had appointed nearly 12,000 BLAs. All three parties alleged that the Election Commission had not fully updated the data submitted by them.

Highest in Belagavi

Belagavi recorded the highest combined BLA strength with 5,747 appointments, followed by Mysuru with 3,927 and Bagalkot with 3,570.

The erstwhile BBMP jurisdiction together accounted for a sizeable number of appointments. While the Central division reported 1,895 BLAs, North and South divisions recorded 788 and 670 respectively.

The BJP maintained a strong presence in districts such as Belagavi, Ballari, Kalaburagi and Vijayanagara, whereas the Congress registered higher numbers in Mysuru, Dakshina Kannada, and Vijayapura.

Some districts such as Chamarajanagar, Ramanagara, Shivamogga, and Yadgir, reported no BLA appointments from any political party, according to available data.

The JD(S) presence was limited to a few districts, with notable appointments in Raichur, Vijayapura, and Uttara Kannada.

Parties raise concerns

Meanwhile, representatives of various political parties raised concerns over the proposed SIR exercise during a meeting convened by Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer V. Anbu Kumar in Bengaluru on Monday.

According to sources, BJP representatives flagged practical difficulties in the enumeration process, particularly in verifying family relationships when relatives sign forms on behalf of absent voters during BLO visits. They also raised concerns over migrant workers who had moved to Bengaluru and other cities for employment while continuing to remain on electoral rolls in their native places. BJP leaders said completing the SIR process within three months could create difficulties for such voters.

Congress representatives questioned the urgency of the exercise in the absence of immediate Lok Sabha or Assembly elections in the State. They urged the Election Commission to provide at least six months for voters who received notices after publication of draft rolls to respond and furnish documents. The party also sought assurance that no eligible voter among the State’s 5.55 crore electors would be excluded.

Representatives of the JD(S), AAP, CPI, CPI(M) and BSP also placed their suggestions before the Election Commission.

Mr. Kumar is learnt to have assured political parties that the SIR process would be conducted transparently while taking all political parties and the public into confidence. He sought cooperation from all parties for the smooth conduct of the exercise.

From Page One

Transport stir called off

The petition also highlighted that nearly 60% of commuters in public transport buses are women travelling under the State government’s free bus travel scheme. The petitioners also argued that the strike would particularly affect students appearing for SSLC supplementary examinations scheduled between May 18 and May 25, as many students from rural and semi-urban areas depend on public transport to reach examination centres.

Referring to earlier litigations concerning transport strikes in 2023 and 2025, the petition stated that the High Court had previously intervened to prevent disruption of essential public services, while also pointing out that transport services were partially affected during previous strike calls, leading to the issue of nearly 17,200 show-cause notices to transport employees.

PUNJAB STATE WAREHOUSING CORPORATION
SCO 74-75, BANK SQUARE, SECTOR-17B CHANDIGARH
PBX : 0172-5197847, 5197846

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

PSWC invites online tenders through GeM Portal for creation of 1.80 LMT godown capacities at 03 locations in the State of Punjab for guaranteed lease of 10 years on Build, Own and Operate / Lease basis for storage requirements of FCI under two bid system ‘Technical Bid’ and ‘ Financial Bid’.
NIT (alongwith GeM Bid IDs) is available on Department’s website i.e. https://pswc.in

PWSC reserves the right to scrap the tender at any stage without assigning any reason and PWSC will not be held liable for any costs and consequences incurred by the intending bidders.

Note: Any corrigendum(s) / Notification(s) to this Notice Inviting E-Tender shall be published Department’s website & GeM Portal.

1004/12/2026-27/11565 Managing Director, PSWC

Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society
(An Organisation of Govt. of Karnataka)
No. 8, MSB-1, 6th & 7th Floor, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru - 560 052

No:KREIS/EE-3/Tender-03/2026-27 Date:18.05.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through E-Procurement Only)

The tenders have been invited for Construction of Bhavana work, Infrastructure works and Electrical repair work in the jurisdiction of KREIS **(Tender Indent No. 822,595/Call-2 and 332/Call-2)** through e-Portal vide website: http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on 18.05.2026. The last date for receipt of the tender is 18.06.2026 and 03.06.2026. The details may be viewed at above website.

Note: Any changes in term tender notification will not be published in dailies. It will be published in e-procurement portal only.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer-3,
KREIS, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/733/CCL/2026-27

At Congress anniversary event, Siddaramaiah attacks BJP, Modi

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Blaming the Centre for being directly responsible for the increase in prices of petroleum products in the country and the NEET examination paper leak, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday also accused the BJP of dividing the society and country by driving a wedge between Hindus and Muslims.

“Prime Minister Narendra Modi tailed U.S. President Donald Trump around and also spoke of the Trump administration returning. When the U.S. and Israel attacked Iran, Prime Minister Narendra Modi did not even express anguish. ... He is directly responsible for the price rise. Those who voted for Mr. Modi are disappointed,” the Chief Minister said at the convention organised in Tumakuru to mark the third anniversary of the Congress government in Karnataka.

On the NEET paper leak, he said, “The Centre rejected our suggestion to follow our CET model. The NEET exam cancellation has affected 22 lakh students.”

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and other Ministers at the convention organised in Tumakuru on Tuesday to mark the third anniversary of the Congress government in Karnataka. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The attack on BJP by Mr. Siddaramaiah seemed to counter Mr. Modi, who, during his visit to Bengaluru, had ridiculed the State government and attacked the Congress on various issues including the leadership tussle.

The BJP, in its bid to come to power, Mr. Siddaramaiah alleged, was driving divisions between Hindus and Muslims.

Ridiculing the BJP’s “Gujarat model of governance”, the Chief Minister said, “BJP has been ruling the State for 35 years, including Mr. Modi’s term from 2001 to 2014. Despite this, the State has not developed. Recently, at Morbi, a landlord raped a woman and her 13-year-old daughter because the woman’s husband could not pay rent of ₹2,000. The BJP should be ashamed.”

Drawing attention to the achievement of his government, which will complete three years on Wednesday, Mr. Siddaramaiah said, “Of the 592 promises made in the 2023 manifesto, the government has implemented more than 250 promises. Efforts will be made to fulfill the remaining promises. We have implemented our five guarantees within the first year.”

He said that when the Congress announced guarantees, Opposition parties said that it cannot be implemented. “Even the Prime Minister (Narendra Modi) said it cannot be implemented and that if implemented, the State would go bankrupt. The Opposition also said that it would empty the treasury and development works would be affected. However, we have initiated development works along with guarantees.”

Recalling his previous tenure (2013-2018), the Chief Minister said, “We implemented 158 of the 165 promises made to the people in the manifesto. Apart from these, 30 flagship programmes that were not part of the promises in the manifesto were implemented.”

Earlier, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said that all the States were copying Congress’ guarantees in Karnataka to tackle the issue of price rise.

Meet held to protect CM’s chair: BJP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

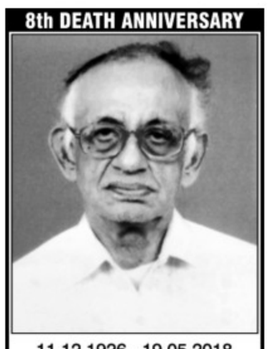
Accusing Chief Minister Siddaramaiah of using ‘Sadhaneya Samavesha’ – the convention organised in Tumakuru by the government to mark its third anniversary – to “blackmail” his party high command to protect his chair, BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra on Tuesday predicted that the Congress will not be able to sustain the victory run beyond 2028.

At a press conference here, he alleged that the Chief Minister had got the event organised as a “show of his strength” to safeguard his chair. “Tumakuru jamboree is of Siddaramaiah, by Siddaramaiah and for Siddaramaiah,” he said, claiming that the three years of Congress “misrule” is a “sordid tale of betrayal, dismal performance, collapse of law and order, rank minority appeasement and rampant corruption”. Anger and resentment against this government are intense and widespread, he said.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

8th DEATH ANNIVERSARY



11.12.1926 - 19.05.2018
Prof Dr V.K.Balachandran
Former Director, Ramanujam Institute of Mathematics
S/o. (Late) Shri Manakkampatte Kesavan Unni Nair & (Late) Smt V.K. Janaki

Fondly remembered by
Smt Radhika Rajasenan,
Dr Rajasenan,
Shobhana, Vivek & Vikram

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PWD/RDN/TS-4/TN/2026-27/688 Date:13-05-2026

Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Short Term Tender Notification -(KW- 1, 2,3 & 4)

1) Notification No & Date : PWD/RDN/TS-4/TN/2026-27/688 Date:13-05-2026 **2) Name of work's:** Raichur District Total 31 work's Raichur, Manvi, Deodurga, Lingasugur & Sindhanur taluk Different types of Buildings, Bridges & Road works. **3) Amount of works:** Min Rs. 327346.40 Max Rs. 83193198.49 **4) EMD Amount Min:** Rs. 8200.00 Max Rs. 1248000.00 **5) Period (including Manson):** Min 1 (One) Month Max 11 (Eleven) Months **6) Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tender:** 27/05/2026 16:00:00 **7) Date and Time for Opening of Tender:** 29/05/2026 16:30:00
Due to any reasons dates, retender any other changes will be notified in the KPPP Portal only No separate paper notification will be issued & For More details visit this website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
PWD Division, RAICHUR.

DIP/RCR/72/KSMCA/74/2026-27

A view of the Lokayukta office in Bengaluru. PTI

Lokayukta raids in PMAY scam; officials, contractor accused of ₹23.35 cr. fraud

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Lokayukta has registered a case against officials of the Karnataka Slum Development Board and a private contractor for allegedly causing a loss of over ₹23.35 crore to the government through irregularities in housing works taken up under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)-2022 scheme in Belagavi district.

According to the complaint, large-scale irregularities were allegedly committed in PMAY housing projects executed in the notified slum areas of Ramdurg town in Belagavi district. Officials allegedly prepared fake bills and records in collusion with contractors despite several houses not being fully constructed.

The investigation revealed that though nearly 600 houses were allegedly incomplete, officials certified the works as completed and released payments by creating false inspection reports and fabricated GPS-based photographic records. The Lokayukta officials said a total of ₹29.45 crore was released to the contractor between April 2019 and November 2024 through 13 bills and related approvals.

A preliminary inquiry reportedly found that instead of constructing complete houses for beneficiaries, only construction materials worth around ₹6.10 crore were supplied, while government funds amounting to about ₹23.35 crore were allegedly misappropriated in collusion with officials and contractors.

The Lokayukta registered a case against retired Assistant Executive Engineer Shambulingappa B.S. and contractor Prasad N.P. of National Projects Construction Corporation Limited, along with others.

On May 19, Lokayukta teams conducted simultaneous raids at multiple locations linked to the accused, including government offices, residences of officials and contractors, and the office of NPCC in Bengaluru. Several documents related to the alleged scam were seized during the searches.

Consensus eludes portfolio allocation in Kerala Cabinet

Delay in announcing appointments in government Gazette points to haggling among factions in the Congress-led front; Chennithala and Muraleedharan likely to hold Home and Health portfolios

G Anand
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The newly sworn-in Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) government's attempt to finalise Cabinet portfolios appeared to run into unexpected headwinds on Tuesday.

The UDF hinted on Monday that it had reached a broad agreement among various factions in the Congress and crucial allies on portfolio allocation. Notably, senior Congress leaders Ramesh Chennithala and K. Muraleedharan signalled that they would hold the Home and Health portfolios, respectively.

However, the apparent dawdling in announcing the appointments in the government Gazette with constitutional finality suggests that haggling over ministerial portfolios continued unabated in the UDF.

According to a few UDF insiders, the finalisation of portfolios for certain Ministers- appeared to be stalled because of the Latin Catholic Church's insistence that the Congress retain the Fisheries portfolio, which, according to him, had been tentatively promised to the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML).

They claimed that the IUML had initially agreed to allow the Congress to hold the portfolio in exchange for the Higher Education Department, which, by some accounts, is promised to Roji M. John, a Congress MLA-elect.

However, the sources claimed that some sections in the IUML had urged the leadership not to concede the party's "legitimate" claim to Higher Education, given the "backwardness" of northern Kerala, chiefly the Malabar region, and the "relative paucity of UGC and PG seats" compared with central and southern Kerala.

Open corridors: Chief Minister V. D. Satheesan's convoy exiting the Secretariat's north gate, shut for a long time during the LDF government's term owing to frequent protests. NIRMAL HARINDRAN

Push to rename Tumakuru 'North Bengaluru'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After Ramanagara district was renamed as Bengaluru South by the State government, the demand to name Tumakuru as Bengaluru North came from Home Minister G. Parameshwara, who has been pushing for Metro connectivity to Tumakuru, about 60 km from the State's capital.

On Tuesday, at a convention to mark three years of the incumbent government, he urged Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, "Considering the proximity, make Tumakuru part of Bengaluru. As Ramanagara was renamed Bengaluru South, Tumakuru can be called Bengaluru North."

Responding to this, Mr. Shivakumar said, "My colleague Mr. Parameshwara has said that the only solution to controlling Bengaluru's population is to transform Tumakuru, located to the north, into a second Bengaluru."

Responding to this demand, BJP MP P.C. Mohan said, "At this rate, Mangaluru may become 'Bengaluru Beachfront', Kalaburagi 'Bengaluru Far East', Kodagu 'Bengaluru Hill Station' and the entire State 'Greater Bengaluru Area'."

BMTC Volvo service

Interestingly, the day also saw Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) launching a new Volvo air-conditioned 'Vajra Vistara' bus service between Bengaluru and Tumakuru, aiming to improve inter-city public transport connectivity.

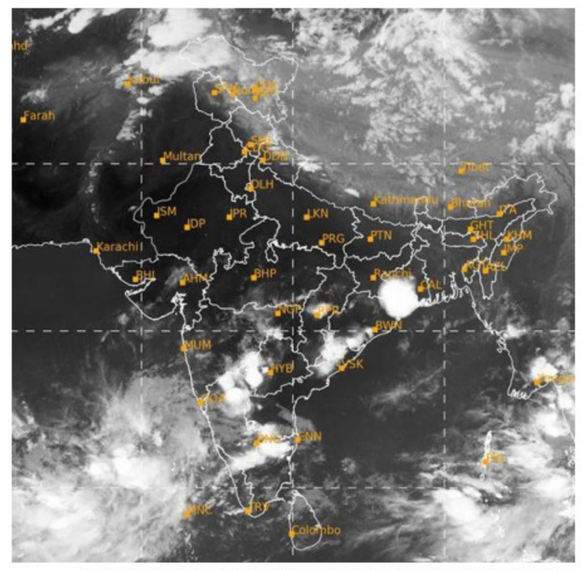
The corporation will initially operate 54 trips at intervals of 20 minutes between Kempegowda Bus Station in Bengaluru and Tumakuru.

The route was inaugurated by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, in the presence of Transport and Muzrai Minister Ramalinga Reddy.

The fare for the full journey has been fixed at ₹120, inclusive of GST and toll charges.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.45 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy rainfall very likely at isolated places over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala, Mahe, Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Heat wave to severe heat wave conditions likely at isolated places over Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Vidarbha

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	16	35.2	25.7	Kozhikode	12	32.8	26.2
Ahmedabad	—	42.2	28.6	Kurnool	—	40.8	29.7
Aizawl	0.2	32.8	21.7	Lucknow	—	43.2	27.8
Allahabad	—	45.8	28.2	Madurai	—	38.0	26.1
Bengaluru	—	30.4	21.2	Mangaluru	2.4	30.1	25.0
Bhopal	—	44.0	30.0	Mumbai	—	33.2	27.5
Bhubaneswar	—	40.1	29.2	Mysuru	—	31.2	22.0
Chandigarh	—	43.2	25.3	New Delhi	—	45.1	28.2
Chennai	—	39.6	28.5	Patna	—	36.3	27.2
Coimbatore	—	34.2	25.4	Port Blair	4	31.6	25.8
Dehradun	—	39.7	23.1	Puducherry	—	37.6	27.6
Gangtok	5	24.7	16.5	Pune	—	38.2	25.4
Goa	8	32.4	26.9	Raipur	—	41.9	29.6
Guwahati	0.8	33.2	23.4	Ranchi	—	37.4	25.2
Hubballi	—	30.0	24.0	Shillong	2	25.4	16.5
Hyderabad	—	40.7	29.4	Shimla	—	32.8	23.4
Imphal	—	31.0	19.9	Srinagar	—	30.7	17.3
Jaipur	—	43.2	31.3	Thiruvananthapuram	27	32.4	23.8
Kochi	—	31.6	25.2	Tiruchi	—	38.1	26.6
Kohima	—	26.0	17.0	Vijayawada	—	41.1	29.0
Kolkata	—	36.8	29.2	Visakhapatnam	—	35.3	29.5

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.40	105	27	95	163	
Bengaluru	.10	46	45	—	109	
Chennai	2	13	—	33	112	
Delhi	.40	100	29	142	293	
Hyderabad	.20	17	26	76	91	
Kolkata	.10	24	11	71	72	
Lucknow	9	41	60	176	175	
Mumbai	.29	6	14	102	99	
Pune	—	71	93	29	65	
Visakhapatnam	.30	46	10	42	112	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Charkhi Dadri, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 342 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Madikeri, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 14

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

ದಾಖಲೆ ಕಳೆದಿದೆ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ದೇವನಹಳ್ಳಿ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಕಸಬಾ ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಸಾದಹಳ್ಳಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ನಿವಾಸಿ ಎಸ್ ವಿ ಸತ್ಯನಾರಾಯಣ ಅವರ ಮಗನಾದ ಶ್ರೀನಾಥ್ ಎಸ್ ಆದ ನಾನು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕರಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ ಮೈಸೂರು ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ಉಪನೋಂದಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 1ನೇ ಪುಸ್ತಕದ: MYW-1- 03226-2018-19 ರಂತೆ ಸಿಡಿ ನಂ. MYWD104 ನೆದ್ದರಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ 04.07.2018 ರ ನನ್ನ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಶುದ್ಧ ಕ್ರಯ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ದೇವನಹಳ್ಳಿಗೆ ಹೋದಾಗ ಬಸ್ ನಿಲ್ದಾಣದ ಹತ್ತಿರ ಕಳೆದುಕೊಂಡಿರುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ದೂರನ್ನು ನೀಡಿದ್ದು, ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ವಿಷಯಗಳು ಸತ್ಯವೆಂದು ನೋಟರಿ ಸಮಕ್ಷಮ ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕರಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ.

AMARAVATI GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE CORPORATION LIMITED (AGICL)
2nd Floor, APCRDA Office, Rayapudi, Thulluru Mandal, (A.P.)
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
NIT. No. 04/MD/CE/AGICL/2026 dated 16-05-2026

S. No.	Name of the Work	Estimated Contract Value (ECV)
1.	Construction of Additional Bungalows with Pile Foundation, Super Structure with RC Columns-Beams Framed Structure, Architectural Finishes, Internal Electrical & Plumbing works, HAVC works and IT works including Home Automation etc., at Rayapudi Village, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh on Design-Build Lump sum (% Percentage Tender) Contract system including DLP of 2 Years	Rs. 26.93 Crs

The bids can be downloaded on AP e-procurement portal from 20-05-2026. For further details, please refer to www.apeprocurement.gov.in and www.agicl.org .
Sd/- Managing Director, AGICL, Amaravati

Government of ODISHA - DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, PHULBANI MINOR IRRIGATION CIRCLE, PHULBANI.
No. 496 /PMIC, dtd. 12.05.2026 - **1st CORRIGENDUM TO BID**

The following modifications are made in respect of **BID IDENTIFICATION NO. ACEPMIC-01/2026-27 vide Lr. No.482 dt.06.05.2026** under Phulbani Minor Irrigation Circle, Phulbani. All other term and conditions stipulated in online Tender Call Notice will remain unchanged.

Sl.No. of TCN	Name of the work	Available amount in lakh vide Column No.3 & 4 of TCN		Modified value may be treated as	
		Col No.3 Approx. Cost in lakhs	Col. No.4 EMD/Bid Security (Rs.)	Approx. Cost in lakhs in Col No.3	EMD/Bid Security (Rs.) in Col. No.4
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Renovation to Kanganinalla MIP in Phulbani Block of Kandhamal District" under DPIW Scheme for the year 2025-26.	235.90	2,36,000/-	230.91	2,31,000/-
2.	Construction of Mahibila Check Dam near village Mahibila of Baragaon GP in Kantamal Block of Boudh District.	123.18	1,23,500/-	123.19	1,23,200/-
3.	Construction of canal Lining of "Right Main Canal from RD 250M to RD 1710Mt & Left Main Canal from RD 0 Mt to RD 1000Mt of Kupati MIP at Kupati in Bhanjanagar Block under MMCLY Scheme.	166.22	1,66,500/-	166.20	1,66,200/-

Other details can be seen in the online bidding documents from the e-Procurement market place : http://tendersorissa.gov.in
Additional Chief Engineer, Phulbani M.I.Circle, Phulbani
32001/243/2627 OIPR-32001/32521/1/26-27/0002

CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA NIYAMITHA
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Executive Engineer, K.R.Sagara Division, K.R. Sagara
TENDER NOTIFICATION NO - 03/2026-27 Dated : 19-05-2026

The Executive Engineer, K.R. Sagara Division, K.R.Sagara, Srirangapatna Taluk, Mandya Dist.on behalf of the Managing Director, CNNL, Mysore has invited tender through e-procurement https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in for 10 No. of works Amounting from Rs. 322.68 Lakhs to Rs. 121.00 Lakhs and on EMD As per KPPP Portal. Any further information Or Clarification for the above said work including last date, opening date, Pre-bid meeting date, EMD, etc., can be obtained from above mentioned office during the office hours & from the above said website.
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
K.R. Sagara Division, K.R. Sagara.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ
ಪಂಚಾಯತ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಯಾದಗಿರ.
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಕಾಪಾಅ/ಪಂರಾಇಂ/ವಿಯಾ/ಕೆಕೆಆರ್‌ಡಿಬಿ/2026–27/ 291 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18.05.2026
ಸಂಕ್ಷಿಪ್ತ ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ) KW-3, (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)
1) ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರ: (1) ಸುರಪುರ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಬಾದ್ಯಾಪುರ ಎಸ್.ಸಿ. ವಾರ್ಡದಿಂದ ಗೋಗಿ ಮುಖ್ಯ ರಸ್ತೆ ವರೆಗೆ ರಸ್ತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಿ.ಡಿ. ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ. (0.00 ದಿಂದ 1.50 ವರೆಗೆ) RDPR/2026-27/RD/WORK_INDENT26228/CALL-2 (ST Bidders Only) **2) ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ:** 2025–26ನೇ ಕೆ.ಕೆ.ಆರ್.ಡಿ.ಬಿ. ಯೋಜನೆ **3) ಟೆಂಡರಿಗಿಟ್ಟ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ:** ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಮತ್ತು ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ರೂ. 100.00 ಲಕ್ಷ **4) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರ ದರ್ಜೆ:** 3ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟು **5) ಟೆಂಡರ ಫಾರಂ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ:** 20.05.2026 ರಿಂದ 29.05.2026 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4:00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ **6) ಟೆಂಡರ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ:** ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿದಂತೆ (ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಹಿಂದಿರುಗಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲಾ) **7) ಟೆಂಡರ ಫಾರಂ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ:** 29.05.2026 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4:00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ **8) ಟೆಂಡರ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ಡ್:** 01.06.2026 ಬೆಳ್ಳಿಗೆ 9:00 ನಂತರ **10) ಟೆಂಡರ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ಡ್:** 05.06.2026 ಬೆಳ್ಳಿಗೆ 11:00 ನಂತರ **11) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ವಿಳಾಸ (ಕಛೇರಿ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ):** ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಯಾದಗಿರ. **12) ಅಂತರಜಾಲ ತಾಣದ ವಿಳಾಸ:** https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
ಸೂಚನೆ :– ಟೆಂಡರರಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂದಿಸಿದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಕಛೇರಿ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು (ರಜಾದಿನಗಳು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ).
ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು,
ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ,
ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ಯಾದಗಿರಿ/80/ಕೆ.ಎಸ್.ಎಂ.ಸಿ&ಎ/2026–27 ಯಾದಗಿರ.

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರ ಕಚೇರಿ(ಪರಿಸರ), ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ – 580029.
ನಂ:ಎಚ್.ಡಿ.ಎಂ.ಸಿ/74/2026–27/ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19–05–2026.
ಅಲ್ಪಾವದಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)
ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ನಿಧಿ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿ ಟ್ರ್ಯಾಕ್ಟರ್ ಕಮ್ ಟ್ರೇಲರ್ ವಾಹನಗಳನ್ನು ಭಾಡಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಪೂರೈಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿಗಳಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಇಂಡೆಂಟ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ	ಇಎಂಡಿ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ
1	DMA/2025-26/SE7009/CALL-3	6553575.00	1,31,071.00	28.05.2026 ಸಮಯ ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆ	30.05.2026 ಸಮಯ ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆ
2	DMA/2025-26/SE7013/CALL-3	5825400.00	1,16,508.00		
3	DMA/2025-26/SE7014/CALL-3	5097225.00	1,01,944.00		
4	DMA/2025-26/SE7015/CALL-3	3640875.00	91,022.00		
5	DMA/2025-26/SE7016/CALL-3	6553575.00	1,31,071.00		

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವ ಕುರಿತು ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20.05.2026 ರಿಂದ www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಗೆ ಲಾಗಿನ್ ಆಗಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು, ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೆಳ ಸಹಿದಾರರ ಕಚೇರಿಯನ್ನು ಕೆಲಸದ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.
ಸಹಿ/–
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು(ಪರಿಸರ)
ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ,
ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ.
ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ಧಾರವಾಡ/209/ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆಪಬ್ಲಿಸಿಟಿ/2026–27

KARNATAKA STATE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING BOARD
No.16, 2nd Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru - 560001
PH: 080-22867369 E-mail: cgmksamb@gmail.com
https://krishimaratavahini.karnataka.gov.in
No.AMB/Div:Dev/No/ 576 /2026-27 Dated:19.05.2026
Short-term price list tender announcement.
Rate Quotations are invited from the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM)/Authorized Dealers/Authorized Distributers/Suppliers, for the items towards Interior furnishing works with allied services such as electrification, air condition, Audio/Visual Media at 3rd and 4th floor of Head office building at KSAMB, 2nd Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore. Detailed Technical Specifications are uploaded in KPP Portal **(Indent No. APMC/2026-27/IND0025).** The Unit rate shall includes supply, installation, testing and commissioning charges (excluding GST). Last date for submission of quotation is **Dt:25.05.2026 before 5:30 P.M.** The details are available during Office hours & website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/-
DIPR/CP/Shirdi Sai/730/2026-27 Chief General Manager

Karnataka Neeravari Nigama Niyamitha
(Government of Karnataka undertaking)
Executive Engineer, KNNL,No.6 Canal Division, Ballari
Tender Notification- Call-2 & Call-3
Reference: This office tender notification No: 220; Dated: 16.05.2026
The Executive Engineer, KNNL No.6 Canal Division, Ballari on behalf of Managing Director KNNL, Bangalore invites the tender for 9 works namely WI.3084 WI.3085,WI 3089,WI.3090, WI.3092, WI.3087, WI.3091 , WI.3086, WI.3088, with Amount put to Tender (Excluding GST) range from Rs.56.64 Lakhs to Rs.209.31 Lakhs, respectively in the Jurisdiction of this Division under the head of account 4701 from the registered eligible contractors in the KPWD, GOK on Two Cover system basis through Karnataka public procurement portal.
The bidders can access and download blank tender document through e-procurement from 21.05.2026 from 11.00 AM onwards
The last date for the submission of tenders is 08.06.2026 up to 4.30 pm, Technical bid opening date is 09.06.2026 at 5.00 Pm and Financial bid opening date is 15.06.2026 at 5.00 pm or after approval of Technical Bid. (For WI.3084 WI.3085,WI 3089,WI.3090, WI.3092, WI.3087, WI.3091 , WI.3088,)
The last date for the submission of tenders is 22.06.2026 up to 4.30 pm, Technical bid opening date is 23.06.2026 at 5.00 Pm and Financial bid opening date is 30.06.2026 at 5.00 pm or after approval of Technical Bid. (For, WI.3086,)
The Tender documents can be viewed / downloaded from the website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. For any changes either in tender details or any other conditions, tenderers can view in KPPP Portal only. Separate notification in this regards will not be published.
For any additional information, the tenderers may contact the office of the undersigned during office working hours or submit the request through office email: eeno6cdbly@yahoo.in for information.
Sd/- Executive Engineer
DIPR/Ballari/2026-27/KSMCA/RO No/151 KNNL,No.6 Canal Division, Ballari

CSIR-Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research
(Council of Scientific and Industrial Research)
Barwa Road, Dhanbad (Jharkhand)
Advt. No. : CIMFR-02/2026
CSIR-Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research, Dhanbad, a premier research institute under Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, an autonomous body under Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, GoI invites application from Indian nationals for the following posts of Technician/Gr. II, Level-02 (7th CPC).

Designation	No. of Posts & Reservation	Scale of Pay as per 7th CPC	Upper Age Limit not exceeding (as on the last date of submission of application as mentioned in the advt.)
Technician- 1 Group- II (1)	30 (including PwBD: 02 & ESM: 03) {UR: 10, EWS: 05, OBC: 02, SC: 02, ST: 11, PwBD: 02 (one each HH & VH with low vision) & ESM: 03}	Level-2 (Rs. 19,900-63,200)	28 Years

Last date for submission of application is **19-06-2026 till 05:00 P.M.** For details including eligibility conditions, Reservation status and terms & conditions etc., please refer to Website www.cimfr.res.in. Any addendum/modification/notifications in connection with this advertisement shall be posted on our website only.
Sd/-
Controller of Administration

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL,
ALBC Division,Almatti-586201.
Tq:Nidagundi, Dist: Vijayapur.
No:KBJNL/ALBC-DN/DM/Qutn/ALBC HW/2026-27/179
Date: 16.05.2026
INFORMATION QUOTATION NOTIFICATION
On behalf of the Managing Director, KBJNL, Bangalore, the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, ALBC Division, Almatti the undersigned invites **sealed quotations** for competitive rates from Reputed Firm/Authorized Agencies for **"Overhauling, servicing and supply of spares and re-erection of dismantled pump no. 10 at ALBC Headwork Dam Site"**. The details and any further information can be had with the under signed office during office hours and can be obtained through e-mail, duly placing your request to ee09albc@gmail.com and Cell No.: **9035782142** on or before**22-05-2026**. Last date to receive information quotation is on or before**25-05-2026 at 5.00 PM**. The sealed quotation will be opened on **26-05-2026 at 11.00 AM** in the under signed office.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, KBJNL, ALBC Division, Almatti
ವಾಸಾಸಂ೦ಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/105/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2026–27

First and foremost

Shared use of disputed religious sites should be allowed to continue

The mixed architecture of the Bhojshala-Kamal Maula complex in Dhar, Madhya Pradesh, has fed uncertainty about its religious identity for more than a century, with the dispute intensifying around the time of the Ram Janmabhoomi mobilisation. The Archaeological Survey of India arranged in 2003 for people of different faiths to take turns using it until a petition in the Madhya Pradesh High Court sought a new survey to determine its 'true' character. The High Court obliged in 2024. The Supreme Court also allowed the survey to proceed with safeguards. On May 15, the High Court ruled that the complex had been a Hindu temple and suggested that the Muslim side seek alternative land from the State, while insisting that it was only determining its religious character. The finding, following from Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant's revival of the Bhojshala proceedings in January, was based on the value of archaeological evidence and the Court's 2019 Ayodhya judgment, especially the principles of "preponderance of probability" and "faith and belief." While the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act 1991 had frozen the religious character of all places of worship as on August 15, 1947, the case proceeded through a loophole in Section 4(3) exempting "ancient and historical monuments" under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958. Given the High Court's determination, this is a procedural side door that hollows out the Act's spirit.

The CJI's involvement also amounts to the Supreme Court staying civil suits while allowing PILs to achieve functionally identical outcomes. The courts may believe that they are neutral adjudicators but they are operating in politically polarised terrain. Groups such as the 'Hindu Front for Justice', which initiated parts of the Bhojshala litigation, are politically backed entities using judicial findings to consolidate agitation around contested religious sites. Archaeological ambiguities in mediaeval structures are not new; however, adversarial litigation, in the form of courts asking what was there 'first', can introduce arbitrary bounds favourable to the majoritarian political climate. A likely question is: why draw the line at mediaeval conquest and not go back to pre-Hindu histories? The Bhojshala ruling indicates that the Ayodhya verdict has paved the way to repeatedly challenge the status of minority religious sites if they are also protected by the Survey, extending a record that already includes Gyanvapi, Shahi Idgah, and the Bijamandal complex. The 1991 Act needs to be enforced strictly, with no determinations of religious character except when pertaining to title disputes already pending at the time of its enactment. Equally, shared use should be the norm as democratic coexistence outweighs any questions relating to 'first' ownership.

Watch, but do not wait

Extra caution should guide international responses to the Ebola outbreak

With unusual alacrity, WHO declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern over the Ebola outbreak in central Africa, not even waiting for the advice of an emergency committee of expert panellists, as is convention. WHO has nevertheless been feted for swift action by global health experts, given that there are several unknowns arising from the current strain responsible for the outbreak – the uncommon Bundibugyo strain. This strain has caused fewer outbreaks in the past and the efficacy of usually effective countermeasures such as vaccines (highly effective against the common Zaire strain) and other therapies, are currently untested with Bundibugyo. The new Ebola outbreak was notified in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Uganda. It is said to be smaller and confined to a limited cross-border region between the two nations, but there are still concerns that because of the ongoing conflict and displacement in the region, cases might go undetected, leading to a spread, and impairing access to care. According to WHO, as on May 16, 2026, eight laboratory-confirmed cases, 246 suspected cases, and 80 suspected deaths have been reported in the DRC's Ituri province. Two lab-confirmed cases (including one death) with no apparent link to each other have been reported in Kampala, Uganda. WHO has listed a clutch of factors – high positivity rate of the initial samples (eight positives among 13 samples); the confirmation of cases in Kampala; increasing trends in syndromic reporting of suspected cases; and clusters of deaths across Ituri province – that point towards a potentially much larger outbreak than what is being detected.

At any rate, WHO has rightly taken a risk-averse pathway, when dealing with a condition that has a 50% fatality rate. While it says that mortality rates can range between 25% and 50% depending on the viral strain, access to medical care, and speed of treatment, there are unknowns this time arising out of the Bundibugyo strain. Ebola is contagious, can spread from person to person, with exposure to body fluids and contaminated surfaces, and can be vicious; the horrific 2014-16 outbreak which swept across Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, resulted in over 28,600 reported cases and 11,325 deaths. By issuing the highest level of global alert early on, WHO has solicited the co-operation of the world in handling the crises. Outbreak control activities at this stage must unfailingly include effective patient and contact tracing, intensive support for every patient, safe and dignified burials, vaccinations, if they work, and social mobilisation to spread information about the disease among the public.

A China-U.S. summit that drew global attention

Xu Feihong

Chinese Ambassador to India

After a nine-year hiatus, United States President Donald Trump once again set foot on Chinese soil, and the "Beijing Moment" immediately went viral around the world. Why did this historic meeting draw such widespread attention? What were the important outcomes achieved? And what does it mean for the future development of China-India relations? I would like to share my observations and thoughts with our Indian friends.

First, why has the China-U.S. Summit captured the world's attention? The world today is fraught with turmoil and instability. The more complex and grave the global situation becomes, the greater the need for a stable and constructive China-U.S. relationship.

Just as Robert Kuhn, President of the Kuhn Foundation of the U.S. said, "In an uncertain world, a handshake between Chinese and American leaders is the 'hard currency' the global market needs most." This statement captures the shared aspirations of the international community. As noted by some Indian media outlets, this leaders' meeting could be the most significant encounter between Chinese and American leaders since Chairman Mao Zedong met President Richard Nixon in 1972.

Support for a new vision

Second, what are the outcomes of the China-U.S. handshake? A key outcome of this summit is that the two leaders agreed on a new vision of building a constructive China-U.S. relationship of strategic stability, providing strategic guidance for bilateral relations over the next three years and beyond. Both sides will support this new vision with tangible cooperation.

Economic and trade cooperation is the "ballast stone". Among those accompanying Mr. Trump on his visit to China were 17 American business titans, including Tesla CEO Elon Musk, Apple CEO Tim Cook and Citi Chair and CEO, Jane Fraser. During the interviews with the media at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, they stated that the successful meeting between the two leaders has injected new impetus into U.S.-China economic and trade cooperation and provided certainty for the global economy.

After multiple consultations, the two economic and trade teams produced generally balanced and positive outcomes, including establishing a board of trade and a board of investment, addressing each other's concerns regarding market access for agricultural products, and expanding two-way trade within the framework of reciprocal tariff reductions. These efforts have stabilised economic and trade ties as well as market expectations.

Global turmoil has heightened the need for stable China-U.S. ties

Sci-tech cooperation is the "bellwether". During this visit, the news that "NVIDIA founder and CEO Jensen Huang made a dramatic, last-minute entry into Beijing aboard Air Force One" spread far and wide. This intriguing detail precisely illustrates that "decoupling and severing of supply chains" is unworkable, mutual support and common progress are the right way forward.

The New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman also wrote an article calling on China and the U.S. to work together to address the first era in human history in which common development and prosperity can only be achieved through global governance, innovation, and cooperation. Coordination between China and the U.S. on Artificial Intelligence (AI) is crucial to the future of both countries and the destiny of humanity. It is hoped that the U.S. will work in the same direction with China, making AI a new frontier for China-U.S. cooperation and a new ladder for human progress.

People-to-people exchanges are the "lubricant" of bilateral relations. During the summit, both leaders emphasised the importance of promoting such exchanges. This reflects not only the consensus between the two leaders, but also the shared aspirations of the two societies. President Xi Jinping had announced an important initiative in 2023 to invite 50,000 young Americans to China over a five-year period. Over the past three years, more than 40,000 American youths have participated in exchange and study programmes, significantly boosting interactions between the two peoples, especially among young people. A poll by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs showed that 53% of Americans favour friendly cooperation and engagement with China.

The Taiwan question

Sensitive issues are the "red line". The Taiwan question was an important topic taken up at the summit. President Xi emphasised that the Taiwan question is the most important issue between China and the U.S. If it is handled properly, the overall relationship will be stable. Otherwise, the two countries will have clashes and even conflicts, and the entire relationship will be in great jeopardy. "Taiwan independence" and cross-Strait peace are as irreconcilable as fire and water. China and the U.S. both agree on the vital importance of safeguarding cross-Strait peace and stability. The U.S. must exercise the utmost prudence in handling the Taiwan issue. In an exclusive interview with Fox News, Mr. Trump made it clear that "we are not looking at somebody say 'let's go independent because the United States is backing us'. I'm not looking to have somebody go independent and we're supposed to travel 9,500 miles to fight a war." This demonstrates that the U.S. has understood China's position and responded to China's concerns.

China-U.S. stability supports Asia

Third, what does the China-U.S. rapprochement mean for China-India relations?

Some people worry that the rapprochement between China and the U.S. may compress India's diplomatic and strategic space. Such concerns are unwarranted. The remarkable achievements of China and India are built on the hard work and wisdom of their own peoples, and are by no means the result of others' generosity, much less subject to the ups and downs of any single bilateral relationship.

The strategic stability of China-U.S. relations provides positive and stable expectations for the world, which will benefit India, Asia, and the world as a whole.

China deeply understands India's aspiration for national rejuvenation and sincerely supports India's foreign policy of strategic autonomy. We stand ready to work with the Indian side to strengthen high-level exchanges, deepen mutually beneficial cooperation, enhance people-to-people exchanges and promote multilateral coordination within mechanisms such as BRICS, so as to achieve the sustained, healthy and stable development of bilateral relations.

The way for major countries to get along well lies in seeking common ground while reserving differences and coexisting peacefully. The path to regional prosperity lies in common progress and shared flourishing. Perhaps this is the very lesson drawn from this China-U.S. summit.

India's EV ambition needs a grid strategy to match

Kavya Wadhwa

Energy and strategic security policy analyst

Every time crude prices spike as a result of tensions in the Strait of Hormuz, India's import bill bleeds. The latest escalation in West Asia has prompted two-wheeler commuters in Patna and Pune to browse electric vehicle (EV) prices with genuine intent. Short daily commutes, immediate fuel savings, and low switching costs mean that two-wheelers will lead India's electric transition – and rightly so. But the visibility of this shift risks obscuring where the deeper infrastructure challenge truly lies: not in scooters, but in the grid that must eventually power freight.

The arithmetic of a second power system

India has approximately 420 million registered vehicles. Full electrification of this fleet across all vehicle categories, accounting for their vastly different energy intensities and annual usage would require generating an additional 900 TWh to 1,100 TWh per year. Even at 50% fleet conversion by 2047, a moderate assumption, the additional demand is roughly 500 TWh, equivalent to roughly a third of India's current annual electricity generation. Electrifying Indian transport means building a substantial expansion of the power system, approaching the scale of the one that took seven decades to construct.

It is tempting to assume that two-wheeler-led adoption keeps grid impact gradual. Voters experience the transition as scooters on their streets; governments announce it as subsidies at rallies. But even 309 million electric two-wheelers – the largest vehicle class – would add only about 55 TWh-75 TWh (based on 5,000 km-7,000 km annual use at 0.035 kWh/km), less than 7% of total projected EV demand at full conversion. The political visibility of two-wheelers is thus inversely proportional to their grid impact.

The data in this article is based on the author's estimates, derived from fleet-scale modelling using VAHAN National Register data, the Parivahan analytics portal, CSTEP freight electrification research, and ICCT heavy-duty vehicle analysis. Goods vehicles are segmented into HGV and MGV categories with differentiated energy intensity and annual mileage. The figures cited reflect the mid-range of three scenarios, with full-conversion estimates noted as upper bounds. The heavier lift belongs to freight and here the numbers are stark. A single heavy goods vehicle produces emissions equivalent to roughly 25 passenger cars. India has approximately 6.26 million heavy goods vehicles (HGVs), each consuming 1.2 to 1.5 kWh per kilometre over 60,000 km a year. Electrifying them alone would require 450 TWh to 565 TWh annually. Add nearly a million medium goods vehicles (MGVs) at lower but still significant energy intensities, and total freight electricity demand approaches 500 TWh to 600 TWh – several times the two-wheeler total, from barely 2% of the registered fleet.

India's electric vehicle (EV) future depends on a strong and clean energy electricity grid

When policymakers speak of "electrifying India's roads," they are largely speaking about electrifying India's supply chains.

This is already visible on the ground. Across several States, fleet operators seeking high-tension depot connections face long delays. The challenge is not only technical but also financial: discoms, already burdened by significant accumulated losses, face distribution upgrades that they have not budgeted for.

What happens at seven in the evening? Annual demand figures tell only half the story. Grids are stressed not by yearly consumption but by instantaneous demand. If millions of vehicles charge during the evening peak, modelling suggests additional loads of several hundred gigawatts even under managed conditions. Without management, the risk extends to grid instability, supply disruptions, and tariff spikes affecting all consumers, not just EV owners.

The tools exist: time-of-use pricing, workplace charging during solar hours, battery storage at hubs, and swapping networks for lighter vehicles. Several States have introduced early EV tariff frameworks. But no national standard ensures that chargers installed today can respond to grid signals. Every conventional charger installed now is a retrofit cost later.

What the grid actually needs

EV charging at this scale places two distinct demands on the generation system. The first is sheer volume. Hundreds of terawatt-hours of new supply. The second is reliability: freight depots, highway chargers, and urban networks need power around the clock, not only when the sun is up or the wind blows. Any credible strategy must address both.

Each major source brings a distinct strength. Solar and wind power offer the lowest marginal cost and fastest scalable deployment but operate at 25%-30% capacity factors, requiring storage or complementary generation for reliability. Nuclear power provides high-capacity-factor, low-carbon baseload independent of weather, but with long build cycles and high upfront costs. Pumped hydro and batteries bridge variability and demand, while gas can manage short-term peaks during the transition.

What does not belong in this mix is expanded coal use. If incremental terawatt-hours come mainly from coal, India merely replaces oil dependence with coal dependence – importing from Australia and Indonesia instead of the Gulf, without emissions gains. The logic of electrification breaks if the grid is not cleaner than the fuel it replaces. A diversified clean portfolio, where each source plays to its strengths, could cut required new capacity by half or more. For highway corridors and urban hubs needing firm baseload, micro modular nuclear reactors offer a weather-independent solution located close to demand centres.

There is a downstream dimension as well. Hundreds of millions of EV batteries will eventually reach end-of-life, and India does not yet have recycling infrastructure at anywhere near the required scale. Without it, the transition risks creating a new waste crisis even as it solves an energy one.

Steps to take

There are four things that would make a difference. The draft National Electricity Policy includes EV demand projections, but they do not yet drive capacity planning. Making EV load a primary variable modelling 30%, 50%, and 100% fleet electrification by 2047 would give the sector clarity. Smart-charging capability must be mandated for all new infrastructure at the equipment standard level.

The Golden Quadrilateral and Dedicated Freight Corridors need a joint power-mapping exercise before electric trucks reach commercial scale. An inter-Ministerial mechanism bridging transport, power, and distribution finance would ensure that no part of the system plans in isolation. And strengthening discom finances through a reformed Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) with EV-readiness benchmarks is essential to making last-mile delivery viable.

The commuter in Patna choosing an electric scooter this week is making the right call. The question is whether planning is keeping pace with the ambition. India's EV transition is inevitable. The task now is to build the grid that makes it sustainable.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reforming poll landscape

We are undertaking many reforms to correct unacceptable practices. Why not amend the Representation of the People Act to curb the unchecked growth of political parties? India has one of the world's highest numbers of political parties, many controlled by families, communities, or narrow regional interests.

Pre-election alliances with tiny parties that lack even basic electoral presence encourage the mushrooming of such entities, often for ulterior motives. One solution is to require every newly registered party to contest independently in its first election and secure at least 10% of the total votes polled. Failing that, its registration should be automatically cancelled. Pre-poll alliances should also be barred. All parties recognised by the Election Commission of India should contest independently with their allotted symbols. Only after results are declared should parties be allowed to form alliances to secure a governing majority.

Dhanasekharan V.,
Chennai

Academic quality

There is a growing rush in Indian universities to increase research papers, PhDs, and patents, especially in private institutions where rankings are a key selling point. The article, "Quality over quantity" (EducationPlus page, May 18), is right in that patents are rarely transferred effectively to industry. Universities engage too little with industry, while industries often treat universities as manpower suppliers. They seldom approach faculty with real-world problems, perhaps due to weak protection of intellectual property rights. In addition, PhD thesis evaluation is often not rigorous enough.

P. Radhakrishnan,
Coimbatore

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Examining the Tadmetla encounter inquiry

R.K. Vij
Former IPS officer

The High Court of Chhattisgarh recently rejected an appeal against the acquittal of 10 accused persons involved in a brutal attack on the security forces in Sukma on April 6, 2010. On this fateful day, 75 personnel of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) of the 62nd battalion and one policeman of the district force, were killed near Tadmetla. The vehicle sent for rescue was also blasted with a remotely triggered Improvised Explosive Device (IED). A case was registered under various sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), Arms Act, and Explosive Substances Act, against unknown Naxalites at the police station in Chintagufa. However, the High Court held that there was a lack of evidence, incomplete circumstantial proof, procedural lapses in the investigation, and a failure to establish guilt beyond reasonable doubt, despite the gravity of the offence.

Lapses in the investigation

The High Court said that there was no independent corroboration in support of the confessional statements of the accused persons. All the prosecution witnesses had turned hostile. The accused persons were not identified by any of the witnesses and no Test Identification Parade (TIP) was conducted. Though the death of the deceased persons had been due to the burns and injuries sustained in firing and explosion, there was no evidence to link that with the accused persons.

No incriminating material (weapon or explosive) had been seized from any of the accused. There was no Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) report to prove that the materials seized from the site, such as tiffin bombs and grenades, were explosives. The Court regretted that there was no record of the prosecution sanction required under the Arms Act for the seized prohibited weapons. In the end, the Court asked the Director General of Police to conduct training courses for the police personnel to enhance their investigative competence, and to periodically check compliance with the Court's directives.

There is no gainsaying that the investigation was poor. It appears no special attention was given to the case which had shaken the conscience of the nation. Neither was an SIT was formed nor was the case supervised by a senior police official. Even the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), 1967 or the Chhattisgarh Special Public Security Act, 2005, were not invoked. Despite these deficiencies, one circumstance which the courts failed to consider was the hostile environment in which the investigation was carried out.

Less than ideal environment

The Tadmetla massacre occurred in April 2010 when the Maoists' annual Tactical Counter Offensive Campaign (TCOC) against the security forces was underway. The TCOC was started by the Maoists after the formation of the People's Liberation Guerrilla Army (PLGA) in 2000; it generally lasts for about three months. The main objective for conducting a TCOC is to target the security forces in order to loot their weapons. While the mandate of the PLGA battalion was to strike anywhere, as decided by the party's top leadership, the general area of movement of the battalion was in South Bastar, which included the southern areas of the Sukma, Dantewada and Bijapur districts. With hundreds of militias positioned all around for passing information about possible police movement to their larger military formations, finding independent witnesses to testify against the Maoists would have been nearly impossible.

The severity of the problem can be understood from the fact that there are still no less than 12 security camps (including five police stations and seven standalone CRPF camps) on the Dornapal-Jagargunda road in Sukma which is hardly 58 km long. The Chintagufa village falls about halfway on this road.

Rushed investigation

Tadmetla was perhaps a case which had a hurried investigation. The case was charge-sheeted without unearthing the names of the main perpetrators of the attack. Later inputs revealed that the attack was spearheaded by the commander of the PLGA battalion, Madvi Hidma. The secretary of the central regional bureau, Katakam Sudarshan, and a special zonal committee member, Haribhushan of the north Telangana special zone, were among the key planners of the attack. No less than 300 cadres including members of battalion-1, the central regional company, company-2 (of the west Bastar division), and local platoons participated in the attack. At least eight Maoists were also killed in the encounter.

Surprisingly, only some militias were arraigned in the charge-sheet. Catching a top leader (or their surrender) could have been very helpful in exposing the entire plot. The investigating officer could have toiled more to unearth the truth. It is a different matter that most of the senior cadres now have surrendered; succumbed to an illness (Katkam Sudarshan and Haribhushan); or been killed (Hidma).

The investigation of grave offences, particularly involving banned organisations such as the CPI (Maoist), requires special skills. The investigating officer needs to know the structure as well as the modus operandi of the outfit. The focus should be more on collecting scientific evidence when there is a high probability of witnesses turning hostile, and knowing that the witness protection mechanism has not acquired roots in the criminal justice system. While some of these issues have been addressed in the new criminal laws, their implementation lies entirely with the investigating agencies.

The investigation of grave offences, particularly involving banned organisations such as the CPI (Maoist), requires special skills

A test for political accountability

A POCSO case against a Minister's son has spiralled into a scandal in Telangana

STATE OF PLAY

Ravi Reddy

The arrest of Bandi Sai Bageerath, the son of Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar, under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, has spiralled into one of the most serious political crises the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has faced in Telangana.

What began as a complaint by the mother of a minor girl has snowballed into a controversy that has dented the party's credibility, weakened Mr. Kumar's standing, and handed the Opposition a potent issue just as municipal elections are approaching.

Public outrage has intensified over delays in FIR registration, counter-complaints by Mr. Bageerath alleging a "honey trap," and allegations that political influence was used to delay his arrest. The BJP's carefully cultivated narrative on women's safety has been undermined by this scandal. This episode will potentially have long-term consequences for its plans to expand in the State.

Political positioning

The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) moved swiftly to exploit the controversy. The party accused the BJP of shielding Mr. Sanjay's son, and exposed, what it termed, the BJP's "double standards."

The ruling Congress Party, initially criticised for delays in registering the FIR, also pivoted quickly. Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy intervened, urging Mr. Kumar to ensure that his son cooperated with the police while stressing that "running away is not a solution." By reframing the issue

around moral accountability, he effectively put the spotlight on Mr. Kumar, portraying him as evasive. Highlighting the eventual registration of the POCSO case against Mr. Bageerath, Mr. Reddy sought to deflect criticism over the delay and redirect attention back to the BJP leader.

The timing also proved politically explosive, coming just days before Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Hyderabad. BRS cadres took to the streets, ensuring that the controversy dominated headlines. For the BRS, the controversy provided an opportunity to erode the BJP's moral authority and regain ground in urban constituencies where the party had been making inroads. The BRS consistently linked the case to what it portrayed as the BJP's broader governance style, accusing it of hypocrisy and insensitivity toward victims.

Caught off guard, the BJP attempted to contain the fallout by insisting that Mr. Kumar had no role in the incident, drawing a distinction between his public office and private life. However, internally, senior leaders advised the Union Minister to ensure full cooperation with the investigation, recognising that any perception of evasion could further damage the party's credibility.

The police too came under scrutiny as the victim's mother alleged that she had to wait for hours before her complaint was formally registered. Police officials defended their handling of the case, citing the need for careful verification as the alleged incident dated back to December 2025.

Further, the timing of the controversy has overshadowed the BJP's political messaging. In municipal elections, where perception and local sentiment play a critical role, such controversies can erode trust among key voter groups. Women voters, a decisive constituency in urban areas, may view the episode as undermining the party's claims on safety. Unless the BJP convincingly distances itself from the controversy, its credibility is sure take a beating.

Beyond politics

The case also draws attention to Telangana's troubling record on child sexual offences. According to NCRB data, 6,113 crimes against children were reported in 2023-24, with 84% of them involving sexual offences and kidnappings under POCSO provisions. Between 2020 and May 2025, as many as 16,994 POCSO cases were registered, yet only 188 resulted in convictions. This backdrop amplifies the political fallout of the case – it is not an isolated controversy but one that taps into widespread public anxiety about child safety.

More than a criminal case, this has evolved into a test of accountability. It underscores how swiftly a personal controversy can escalate into a full-blown political crisis. For the BJP in Telangana, the challenge goes beyond immediate damage control – it must rebuild trust in an environment where perception often outweighs policy. How the party responds may well determine its future in Telangana.

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Understanding the political voice of India's workforce

The workforce of India remains mostly politically passive, especially among vulnerable groups, despite holding balanced views on welfare and governance

DATA POINT

Kirti Sharma
Krishangi Sinha

May 1, celebrated globally as International Workers' Day, traditionally turns attention to wages, rights, and working conditions. Yet, an equally important dimension often goes unnoticed – how India's workforce participates in politics. Occupation-wise data from the Lokniti-CSDS post-poll National Election Study 2024, reveals a layered story. The composition of the workforce itself highlights deep structural divides, particularly along gender lines **(Table 1)**. Across most occupations, men dominate, especially in business (87%), skilled work (84%), and semi-skilled work (82%). Even within salaried employment, men constitute nearly four-fifths of the workforce. In contrast, unpaid domestic roles remain overwhelmingly feminised, with 95% of housewives/househusbands being women. The student category offers a glimpse of a more balanced future, with a relatively closer gender split of 58% male and 42% female. Such structural inequalities in the workforce raise an important question: do these groups also differ in how actively they engage in politics?

Despite being central to the economy, most occupational groups exhibit low levels of political participation as highlighted in **Table 2**. A majority across nearly all categories describe themselves as "not at all active" in politics, specifically 60% among salaried workers, and 82% among housewives/househusbands. Even among the most engaged groups, those reporting high levels of participation rarely exceed 10-13%. This suggests that large sections of the workforce, particularly those with fewer resources or greater domestic responsibilities, remain distanced from active political processes. The issue is not merely awareness, but the capacity and opportunity to participate meaningfully. However, low participation does not necessarily imply weak or uninformed political opinions. To understand this, it is useful to examine workers' policy preferences.

When it comes to welfare preferences, the workforce demonstrates a nuanced and pragmatic outlook as shown in **Table 3**. Across occupations, the most preferred option is not an either-or choice between direct cash transfers and subsidies, but a combination of both. Roughly one-third of respondents in each category support a hybrid model that provides both income support and subsidised essentials. While a smaller proportion favours only direct cash transfers (around 19-23%) or only subsidies (around 30-35%), the dominant preference reflects a desire for both flexibility and security. This indicates that workers are not guided by rigid ideological positions but by practical considerations shaped by everyday economic realities.

Table 4 shows that across occupational groups, the largest share of respondents consider both Central and State government performances equally important while making electoral decisions, with proportions ranging from 37% to 45%. Although certain groups such as farmers and students show a slightly greater inclination towards evaluating the Central government, the overall trend suggests that voters are capable of assessing governance across multiple levels. Rather than relying on singular narratives, the workforce appears to adopt a more comprehensive approach to political accountability. It remains largely politically passive, particularly among vulnerable and unpaid groups, yet demonstrates thoughtful and balanced preferences when it comes to welfare and governance.

Kirti Sharma and Krishangi Sinha are researchers with Lokniti, CSDS. Views are personal and do not express the views of the institution.

Workers and politics

The data for the charts were sourced from the Lokniti-CSDS post-poll National Election Study 2024

After the vote: Voters show their ink-marked fingers after casting their votes for the Lok Sabha elections, in May, 2024. ANI

1. Across most occupations, **men dominate** participation, especially in business, skilled work , and semi-skilled work
2. A majority across nearly all categories describe themselves as **"not at all active"** in politics
3. Between cash transfers and subsidies, the most preferred option, across occupations, is not an either-or choice but **a combination of both**
4. The largest share of respondents consider both Central and State government performances **equally important** while making electoral decisions

*Political participation refers to involvement in election-related activities such as attending campaign meetings and rallies, taking part in processions or *nukkad nataks*, participating in door-to-door canvassing, distributing election pamphlets or putting up posters, and sharing campaign messages of political parties or candidates on platforms such as WhatsApp and Facebook

Table 1: Workforce composition by gender across occupations

Occupation	Gender	
	Male	Female
Professional	64	36
Salaried	78	22
Business	87	13
Skilled worker	84	15
Semi-skilled worker	82	18
Farmer	74	26
Housewife/ Househusband	5	95
Student	58	42

Table 2: Political participation levels across occupational groups

Occupation	Political participation*		
	Highly active	Somewhat active	Not at all active
Professional	12	28	60
Salaried	13	27	60
Business	10	28	61
Skilled worker	11	30	59
Semi-skilled worker	9	26	65
Farmer	9	25	65
Housewife/ Househusband	4	15	82
Student	9	23	68

Table 3: Welfare preferences: Direct cash transfers vs subsidies

Occupation	The government should deposit money in people's bank accounts rather than give wheat/rice, gas cylinders etc. at a lower price			
	Should deposit money	Give wheat / rice etc.	Should do both	Should do neither
Professional	21	32	34	10
Salaried	23	32	34	8
Business	22	30	38	7
Skilled worker	19	33	38	5
Semi-skilled worker	21	34	36	4
Farmer	21	35	33	5
Housewife/ Househusband	20	32	35	4
Student	19	34	37	5

Table 4: Voting priorities: Central vs State government performance

Occupation	Priority in voting decision: Central government performance vs State government performance			
	Central govt.	State govt.	Both govts. equally	Neither govt.
Professional	25	18	41	12
Salaried	24	19	45	8
Business	26	19	43	8
Skilled worker	24	20	41	9
Semi-skilled worker	24	20	37	13
Farmer	27	24	37	7
Housewife/ Househusband	22	20	40	8
Student	27	16	45	7

Note: All figures are in per cent. In Table 2, figures might not add up to 100 due to rounding off. In Tables 3 and 4, the rest did not respond.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO MAY 20, 1976

Indian Almanac popular abroad

Calcutta, May 19: The Indian almanac is becoming popular abroad.

The Indian Astrological Society here has been receiving queries on astronomical calculations and the do's and dont's prescribed for specific days in the almanac.

Mr. Nirmal Chandra Lahiri, President of the Society, told Samachar that the inquiries were such as a New Yorker's wish to know some auspicious day for a visit to India and the query from the disciples of the Gaudiya Math in Britain about the days of Ekadadi in different months.

Spokesmen of several publishing houses told Samachar: "We are not aware of any other Indian publication having a higher sale than that of the almanac year after year!"

In West Bengal alone, about 7,00,000 copies of almanac were sold during the Bengali year ending April 13, this year. The year before 6,00,000 copies were sold.

Records showed that some Western countries were importing copies of different Indian almanacs for use by their people. In Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar, the sales vary from 5,00,000 to about 6,00,000 copies. Almost identical sales were reported from Tamil Nadu, Andhra, and Karnataka.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MAY 20, 1926

Labour emigration to Malaya

Negapatam, May 19: Labour Emigrants are now embarking from this port, through the Federated Malaya States Government Emigration Depot for the estates and rubber plantations in Malaya, on an average of 6,000 persons a week. Three steamers a week have been sailing from this port for the last one month and more for Malaya to convey these Emigrants. Yet above 2,000 people are left behind in the Emigration Depot every week for want of accommodation on board the steamers. Every train coming to Negapatam brings a big batch of labourers recruited by the Kanganis or recruiting agents and their number is increasing every day. A large number of labourers is also coming here independent of the Kanganis and get admission into the Emigration Depot, which gives them a free passage to Malaya.

From Page One

Police suggest larger SC Bench to review UAPA bail

"My Lords may consider interim bail, I am not opposing that...but the issue requires consideration by a larger Bench in view of the two conflicting judgments," he added.

The judgment by the Bench headed by Justice Nagarathna was delivered on May 18 while granting bail to Jammu and Kashmir resident Syed Iftikhar Andrabi in a narco-terror case investigated by the National Investigation Agency (NIA). In its ruling, the Bench voiced "serious reservations" about the January 5 judgment denying bail to Jawaharlal Nehru University scholars Umar Khalid and Sharjeel Imam in the alleged larger conspiracy case linked to the 2020 Delhi riots, including the foreclosure of their right to seek bail for a year.

The Bench underscored that the January 5 verdict had failed to correctly apply the binding principles laid down by a larger three-judge Bench in *Union of India v. K.A. Najeeb* (2021), which held that prolonged incarceration and delay in trial can override the statutory restrictions on bail under Section 43D(5) of the UAPA.

Taking note of the submissions, the top court posted the matter for hearing on May 20 to consider the interim bail pleas.

Petrol and diesel prices up 90 paise a litre

According to government data, India's crude oil basket until May 15, since the start of the month, has averaged $106.69 per barrel. Further, in the morning hours of Tuesday, Brent crude futures (July) were trading 0.15% higher at $109.34 per barrel.

Sourav Mitra, partner for oil & gas at Grant Thornton Bharat, said while the latest increase provides "incremental relief" to the country's oil-marketing companies, it may not be sufficient to fully cushion the existing stress.

"With crude sustaining above $100 per barrel and the Indian rupee weakening, both of which increase the landed cost of imports, OMCs continue to operate under materially significant cost pressure, with currency depreciation alone potentially offsetting a substantial amount of gains from the price revisions," Mr. Mitra said.

India's crude oil basket until May 18, since the start of the month, has averaged $107.3 per barrel, according to government data. Further, in the early evening hours of Tuesday, Brent crude futures (July) were trading 1.06% lower over their previous close at $110.9 per barrel.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Prashant Vashisht, senior vice-president and co-group head, Corporate Ratings at ICRA Ltd., held that should benchmark Brent crude futures oscillate between $105 and $110 for every barrel, based on a 10-year average between the price of crude oil and the refined petroleum products, the latest price increase would help curtail the existing losses of OMCs from domestic LPG, petrol and diesel to ₹450 crore per day.

Further, responding to a query about adjusting for OMC losses and fears about inflation, Mr. Vashisht held, "The losses being made at present are unsustainable. The OMCs are opting for graded increases so that there is no shock," he said.

Nordic nations, India natural partners: Modi

His meeting with Ms. Frostadóttir, one of the world's youngest leaders, was a first since she was elected in 2024, and Mr. Modi is understood to have invited the Icelandic leader to visit India next year.

"The world needs more close *sambandh* (relations)," Ms. Frostadóttir said during the press meet, referring to the word that holds the same meaning in Hindi and Icelandic.

Warning that geopolitical uncertainty would continue for the foreseeable future, Mr. Orpo said that India and the Nordic countries must continue the conversation on global turbulence and announced that the next India-Nordic Summit would be hosted by Finland. Increasing trade – given that Denmark, Sweden, and Finland are part of the India-European Union Free Trade Agreement announced in January 2026, and Norway and Iceland are part of the India-European Free Trade Agreement – was also part of the discussions. India at present does a combined trade of $19 billion with the five Nordic countries combined, a relatively low figure compared to other European countries and regions.

The summit was Mr. Modi's last engagement before leaving for Italy for the last leg of his six-day, five-nation tour to the UAE and Europe.

A joint statement issued by all the leaders noted that India and the Nordic countries need to deepen their engagement to address global challenges, and all five Nordic leaders backed India's bid for a permanent seat in a reformed UN Security Council, and welcomed India's application for Nuclear Suppliers Group membership.

"As leaders of vibrant democracies and large open market economies, they underscored their shared interest in fostering a robust and resilient global order based on international law that promotes peace, stability, inclusive economic growth and sustainable development," the joint statement issued after the summit said. It committed to upholding international law including the United Nations Charter, and shared values including "democracy, freedom, human rights, gender equality".

Hope India can push for Ukraine truce: Norway PM

Store says Modi can use channels to Russia to help bring a ceasefire; he says the Nordic country respects India's energy needs but there has to be 'more pressure on Russia to come to the table'

Suhasini Haidar
OSLO

Growing ties: Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store, in Oslo, Norway on Monday. PTI

Norway hopes India will use its channels with Russia to push for a ceasefire in the war in Ukraine, said Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store. Speaking to Indian journalists here in Oslo during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's two-day visit to Norway, Mr. Store indicated that while the two sides had differences on the issue, he understood India's need to source energy.

The Norwegian government has built a fund for Ukraine and sent military support in the conflict, and has consistently pushed for more sanctions against Russia.

Mr. Store said it was useful to exchange views with Mr. Modi on Tuesday on geopolitical issues, and he had "respect" for the reasons for India's position on the Russia-Ukraine conflict. He also said that External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and National Security Adviser Ajit Doval had met their Norwegian counterparts for further discussions on the issue.

"India is a huge country and has needs for its energy supplies. And Norway being an energy exporter, we should respect that," Mr. Store said in response to a question from *The Hindu*, but added that there had to be "more pressure on Russia to come to the table and make real effort to end this war".

Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, India has increased its intake of Russian oil multifold, with Russian crude that once made up less than 1% of India's imports reaching a high point of 40% of the whole.

Mr. Store's comments came shortly before the U.S. government announced it would extend its sanctions waivers on the import of Russian oil for a third month during the war in West Asia, while India said it would continue its oil imports from Moscow.

"We believe that when Russia can feel that energy [exports] are also being restricted – their sales – that creates pressure on Russia. At the same time, I know that the Indian Prime Minister and Indian leadership have channels with the Russian leadership, and I hope to see that they can use them to get a ceasefire going," Mr. Store continued, when asked about his comments during a joint press appearance earlier in the day, where he referred to issues where "Norway and India do not always see eye to eye".

However, he denied that the differences had impacted the bilateral relationship between India and Norway in any negative way.

On the Arctic Council

Mr. Store was also asked about whether the divide over Russia would affect India's engagement with the eight-nation Arctic Council that includes all Arctic states: Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and the U.S. India has been a permanent member of the grouping that discusses trade routes, climate change and ocean management since 2013.

"We wish to see that India, with its science can also be part of the research on Arctic climate, which is important for India," he added.

The meeting is taking place a year after it was originally scheduled, as Mr. Modi had to cancel his visit after the terror strikes in Pahalgam and the four-day India-Pakistan conflict.

Mr. Store said that all countries must take a firm position against terrorism. "We have to stand together against [terrorism], to fight it in its darkest shapes, but also to prevent it. And for that, we need political cooperation and today's visit has confirmed that Norway and India are getting closer," Mr. Store said.

Modi skips questions from press; Store says 'different traditions'

Suhasini Haidar
OSLO

The External Affairs Ministry defended India's record on democracy on Monday, for the second time during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's European tour, over Mr. Modi's decision not to take questions from the press. Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store called the practice a "different tradition" from Nordic countries that he had to "respect".

During the joint press appearance with his counterpart, Mr. Modi was confronted by a Norwegian journalist who asked him to respond to media questions, as was the norm in the European country. Later in the day, after the same journalist confronted the External Affairs Ministry on the issue, as well as on human rights during a briefing, a senior Ministry official said India was a "civilisational country".

"We hear a lot of people asking why this, why that, but let me tell you this. We are one-sixth of the total population of the world, but not one-sixth of the problems of the world," said Secretary (West) Sibi George. "We have a Constitution which guarantees the fundamental rights of the people. We have equal rights for the women of our country, which is very important," he said.

Earlier in the day, Helle Lyng Svends, a correspondent for the *Dagsavisen*, stood up after the press statements made by Mr. Modi and Mr. Store in Oslo. "Prime Minister Modi, why don't you take questions from the freest press in the world," she said, then following him out of the room, adding, "Do you deserve the trust of our... [government]?"

On Tuesday, leaders of Nordic states and Mr. Modi also addressed the press at the end of the India-Nordic Summit, but did not take questions. Speaking to *The Hindu*, Mr. Store said he had to respect the wishes of other leaders from countries of "different traditions". "All my Nordic colleagues have talked to journalists from different news [media] outlets, but I have to respect that India may have different traditions. That's for [Indians] to resolve," he said.

During the PM's visit to the Netherlands on Saturday, Dutch journalists had similarly raised objections to the practice of no questions with Mr. George during a press briefing.

"We face these kind of questions basically because of the lack of understanding of the person who asks the question," Mr. George had replied, citing India's historic democratic freedoms and human rights record.

Church leaders begin peace mission in Manipur

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

A 10-member team of church leaders representing four national and global organisations began its peace mission in Manipur by meeting leaders of an apex Naga body, as its Kuki counterpart extended its shutdown by another 48 hours from Tuesday midnight.

The church leaders represent the Manipur Convention, the Council of Baptist Churches in North East India (CBCNEI), the Asia Pacific Baptist Federation, and the Baptist World Alliance. They met leaders of the United Naga Council (UNC) in Senapati, one of four hill districts caught in a conflict between the primarily Christian Kuki-Zo and Naga communities.

Rev Namseng R. Marak, the secretary general of CBCNEI, told presspersons that the focus of the meeting was on defusing the present crisis arising out of the hostage situation following the killing of three Thadou church leaders on May 13. A section of Thadous claims it is a tribe independent of the Kuki tag.

"This is a difficult moment for the affected families. We appeal to all communities to exercise restraint, remain patient, and move forward in the spirit of forgiveness and peace," he said, hoping that the Kuki and Naga communities would uphold "brotherhood and humanity" for the restoration of peace in Manipur.

A.C. Thotso, the member-secretary of the UNC's Working Committee, welcomed the church leaders' peace initiative. He said the matter would be considered by the decision-making bodies of the organisation, while reiterating that "peace can prevail only when truth is acknowledged".

Modi and Meloni outline road map for India-Italy strategic partnership

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Giorgia Meloni

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni, in a joint op-ed across several news platforms, outlined an expanded road map for cooperation between the two countries across sectors, including trade, technology, energy, space, and security, against the backdrop of an emerging "Indo-Mediterranean" corridor.

"The relationship between India and Italy has now reached a decisive stage. In recent years, our ties have expanded with unprecedented momentum, evolving from a cordial friendship into a special strategic partnership grounded in the values of freedom and democracy and a common vision for the future," said Mr. Modi and Ms. Meloni in the op-ed titled "A Strategic Partnership for the Indo-Mediterranean".

"Both India and Italy are located at the very heart of two crucial hubs of the global economy – the Indo-Pacific and the Mediterranean – regions that cannot be viewed as separate spheres, but instead as increasingly interconnected spaces," it said.

"As a matter of fact, we are witnessing the emergence of what might be termed the Indo-Mediterranean, an important corridor for trade, technology, energy, data and ideas tying the Indian Ocean to Europe. It is precisely within this interconnected space that our bond naturally evolves into a special strategic partnership – one that bridges two continents and shapes new global dynamics," said the op-ed.

In this context, it added, the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) represents a vision aimed at connecting the regions through modern transport and infrastructure, digital networks, energy systems, and resilient supply chains; and that India and Italy are also committed to working together with other partners to make this vision a reality.

Stating that India and Italy want to reach and exceed the €20-billion bilateral trade target by 2029, the leaders said the free trade agreement between the European Union and India paves the way in the same direction. In focus are defence and aerospace, clean technologies, machinery, automotive components, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, textiles, agri-food, tourism, and other sectors.

The op-ed also highlighted cooperation in digital infrastructure and AI.

U.S. approves $198-mn deal for Apache support

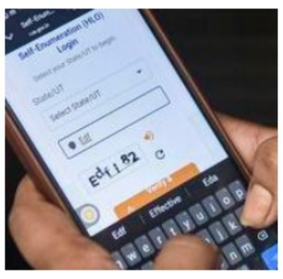
The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The U.S. Department of State has approved a possible Foreign Military Sale to India for follow-on sustainment support and related equipment for AH-64E Apache attack helicopters at an estimated cost of $198.2 million.

According to the notification issued by the U.S., India has requested Apache helicopter sustainment support services, along with contractor-provided engineering, technical and logistics support services. The package also includes technical data, publications, personnel training, and other related elements of logistics and programme support.

SC Commission issues notice to authorities in Punjab over caste slurs in Census forms

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI



Self-enumeration website lists offensive words for the Valmiki community, says complaint.

Noting that Census 2027 forms for Punjab list caste slurs as synonyms for the names of Scheduled Caste communities, the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) has issued a notice to the Director of Census Operations in Punjab as well as the State government's Social Justice Department as part of its investigation into the issue.

The notice was based on a complaint from National Safai Karmachari Commission Vice-Chairperson Hardeep Singh Gill. The Union government's self-enumeration website for Census 2027 lists offensive words for the Valmiki community in Punjab, Mr. Gill told *The Hindu*, citing the use of words like "Chura" and "Bhangi".

In fact, Census officials may simply be following the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, notified by the President of India, which repeatedly lists these offensive words as synonyms for the caste name "Balmiki" in the SC lists for Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Chandigarh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Rajasthan, West Bengal, and Madhya Pradesh. In other States, including Delhi, "Bhangi" is listed by itself as a caste name, despite being considered a slur by many.

Mr. Gill said these words are prohibited under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

In its notice, the NCSC enclosed Mr. Gill's complaint and said that it has "decided to investigate/inquire" into the issue as per its Constitutional powers. It has asked for an action-taken report from both the Director of Census Operations and the Punjab government within 15 days.

Nalanda a civilisational symbol, says P.K. Mishra

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The 21st century should be a period of "intellectual decolonisation" that will help in the recovery of civilisational self-confidence, said P.K. Mishra, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, at the third convocation of Nalanda University held in Bihar's Rajgir on Tuesday.

"There are universities that are institutions. And then there are universities that are civilisational symbols. Nalanda belongs to the latter category," he said.

Mr. Mishra congratulated the graduating students and urged them to "work without walls", calling them to follow the true lesson of ancient Nalanda's wisdom of openness.

APPEAL

Praveen Kumar is 18 years old suffering from "Relapsed T Cell - Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia". He needs reinduction Chemotherapy followed by an Allogenic Bone Marrow Transplantation at **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai**. The total expenditure is Rs.16,00,000/-. His father is a daily wage earner and their family cannot afford this huge cost. Please support for the treatment. Donations sent by Ch/D.D. favouring **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged.** The donations sent through Ch/D.D/ NEFT Transfer & GOOGLE PAY (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/c No.60182010063310, IFSC No.CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT.

All correspondence is done through **WWS**, Regd. Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No.GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai - 600006. Ph: 044-42137401/31523781/7338978027.**
Email ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com
Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org

WWS

Trinamool candidate opts out of Falta contest

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

Jahangir Khan, Trinamool Congress candidate in the Falta Assembly constituency in South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal, has said that he is withdrawing from the repolling being held for the seat on Thursday.

"Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari has announced a special package for the development of Falta. In the interest of Falta's development, I am withdrawing from this election," Mr. Khan said at a press conference.

Since the official deadline for withdrawal of candidature has passed, the name and party symbol of the Trinamool Congress candidate will remain on the EVM even if Mr. Khan does not contest.

A Trinamool Congress statement said Mr. Khan made a personal choice and it was not the party's decision.

Polling was held in Falta in the second phase of the West Bengal Assembly election on April 29. After large-scale irregularities were reported, the Election Commission ordered repolling.

Congress targets Modi over fuel price increase

Kharge says giving free pass to Adani, 'robbing' the people was PM's 'compromised model'; Rahul wonders if Modi's request led to Adani group's removal from a Norwegian wealth fund blacklist

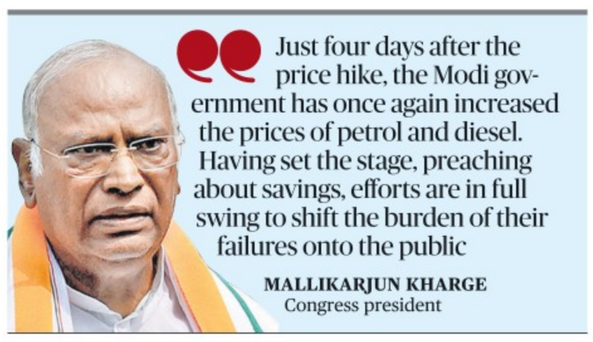
The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday stepped up its attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his visit to Norway and the latest round of increase in fuel prices.

Party president Mallikarjun Kharge said giving a free pass to Gautam Adani and "robbing" the common people was Mr. Modi's "compromised model". Mr. Kharge's comments came after petrol and diesel prices were raised by around 90 paise per litre.

His party colleague and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, wondered if the Prime Minister's personal request led to the Adani group being removed from a Norwegian wealth fund blacklist.

Mr. Gandhi's remarks referred to the decision of Norway's sovereign wealth fund, the world's largest with assets estimated at $1.2 trillion which is managed by the Norges Bank, to exclude Adani Green Energy Ltd. (AGEL) from its portfolio earlier this year over concerns relating to alleged financial wrongdoing.


Just four days after the price hike, the Modi government has once again increased the prices of petrol and diesel. Having set the stage, preaching about savings, efforts are in full swing to shift the burden of their failures onto the public
MALLIKARJUN KHARGE
Congress president

"We get very good information these days. Modi ji, did Norway agree to your personal request to remove Adani from their pension fund blacklist," Mr. Gandhi asked in an X post, sharing an image of a report on the sovereign fund's decision and the Prime Minister's Norway visit – the first by an Indian Prime Minister in 43 years.

And amid the controversy involving a Norwegian journalist, attempting to ask a question to Mr. Modi after a joint briefing with the Norwegian Prime Minister, Mr. Gandhi put a separate X post. "When there is nothing to hide, there is nothing to fear. What happens to India's image when the world sees a compromised PM panic and run from a few questions?"

'False assurances'

Mr. Kharge widened the attack by linking the Adani issue to the latest fuel price hike, accusing the government of being engrossed in elections and giving false assurances.

"Robbing the common people and giving Adani a free pass from America – this is Modi*ji*'s compromised model," the Congress chief alleged in a post on X, referring to the reported decision of the U.S. Department of Justice to drop criminal charges against industrialist Gautam Adani and his nephew Sagar Adani.

The Congress president said the BJP government lacked "foresight and leadership", and asked why consumers were being burdened with fuel price increases if oil imports were continuing from Russia.

"Modi ji, who fills the air with false pride about being the 'vishwaguru', has begged and pleaded with America for a one-month extension on 'permission' to buy Russian oil. Every time he does this, he hurts the pride of 1.4 billion Indians," Mr. Kharge said.

"Just four days after the price hike, the Modi government has once again increased the prices of petrol and diesel. Having set the stage, preaching about savings, efforts are in full swing to shift the burden of their failures onto the public," he added.

Congress, its leaders must stop being 'obstructionist', says Finance Minister

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

If the Congress and its leaders cannot "contribute positively" to the nation, they should stop being "obstructionists", Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Tuesday.

In a post on social media, she also went on to list the Narendra Modi government's achievements under various social sector schemes, asking if these were aimed at benefiting the Adanis or Ambanis.

"Since 2014 we continue to serve every sector and every section of our society through our policies and initiatives," Ms. Sitharaman said. "Farmers, the poor, women, youth, MSMEs are at the core of our governance structure."

The Finance Minister asked whether the 58 crore Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana accounts that have been created were for "Adani/Ambani".

Nirmala Sitharaman

She also questioned whether the achievements under the Mudra Yojana, Vishwakarma Yojana, Internship scheme, e-Shram cards, VB-G RAM G Act, Ayushman Bharat, PM KISAN, Lakhpati Didi, Drone Didi, PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, SVANidhi, ECLGS 5.0, and several other initiatives were for the benefit of the industrialists.

"We are focused on the welfare of common people," the Finance Minister asserted. "If @INCIndia [the Congress] and its leaders cannot contribute positively to nation-building, they should stop being obstructionists. A responsible opposition does not engage in fear mongering."

Earlier in the day, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had attacked the government, saying that "a ferocious economic storm is looming over our heads". "In 12 years, what Modi *ji* built as a structure – it was only for Adani and Ambani," Mr. Gandhi said at an event in Rae Bareli. "And now, that very structure is about to come crashing down. The blow won't land on them – they have escape routes."

"The blow will land on you – on the youth, the poor, the middle class, the farmers, the labourers, the small traders – who were never even part of that structure," he added.

SHANTI Act liability absurdly low: plea in SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday appeared wary about rocking the boat on a new nuclear law which caps liability at less than ₹4,000 crore even as the petitioner, a retired bureaucrat, reminded the court of its own 40-year-old judgment that held that the "larger and more prosperous" an enterprise carrying on a hazardous activity is, the greater must be the compensation for causing an accident which may affect thousands of lives.

"Name a single country which does not fulfil its energy needs through nuclear plants," Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, heading a three-judge Bench, asked petitioner E.A.S. Sarma.

Mr. Sarma, represented by advocates Prashant Bhushan and Neha Rathi, has challenged the Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India (SHANTI) Act of 2025, primarily on the ground that it allowed private sector and foreign corporations to operate nuclear power plants in India

and has further capped the liability of these operators at an "absurdly low level and exempted the supplier from any liability".

But the Bench adopted a cautionary note about examining the legality of the Act, terming it a "sensitive legislative policy issue".

Mr. Bhushan submitted that Article 21 (right to life) could not be sacrificed on the altar of policy.

Justice Joymalya Bagchi queried whether the petition was challenging the very act of foreign corporations setting up nuclear power plants in India or if it was limited to the quantum of financial liability post a nuclear accident.

Mr. Bhushan argued that both were interconnected, the compensation threshold had been lowered to minimise liability in order to attract foreign private investors in the nuclear sector.

He said the Supreme Court's 1986 judgment in the Oleum gas leak case had made a strong statement against cutting corners on liability to attract investments through hazardous industry. Forty years ago, the court had extended the ambit of Article 12 of the Constitution to include private corporations engaged in dangerous and hazardous activity under the definition of 'state' for the purpose of enforcing fundamental rights, particularly Article 21, in case of accidents.

Chief Justice Kant listed the case for the second week of July.

Ensure foolproof NEET on June 21, says Pradhan

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Education Minister calls for holding the test in a secure and seamless manner

Chairing a review meeting on preparations for the June 21 National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (Undergraduate) for medical admissions, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Tuesday directed authorities to conduct the re-test in a "foolproof" manner "under strict security protocols".

The test held on May 3 was cancelled as the questions had leaked, leading to an uproar and federal investigations.

An Education Ministry statement said Mr. Pradhan chaired a "high-level review meeting" with senior officials of the Ministry, and "stressed the need for complete integrity and transparency in the conduct of the examination". The Minister said all "gaps" in the earlier test should be identified and "comprehensively addressed and eliminated".

The statement said Mr. Pradhan said "coordination meetings" should be held with District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police across the States to "ensure robust monitoring and effective implementation of examination arrangements". It said the Education Minister called for conducting the test in a "secure, seamless, and foolproof manner under stringent security protocols". "While underscoring that vigilance and security at examination centres must remain uncompromised, Mr. Pradhan also instructed officials to ensure adequate arrangements for students, including transportation, drinking water and other essential facilities," the Ministry said.

The leak of the May 3 test questions affected over 20 lakh students.

The CBI on Tuesday searched the residences of three students in Nagpur and Chandrapur districts in Maharashtra.

SC notice on petition that U.P. crushed labour stir

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday decided to examine a petition alleging that the State of Uttar Pradesh weaponised its police machinery to infiltrate and crush a legitimate labour agitation in Noida to shield corporates indulging in "rampant wage theft".

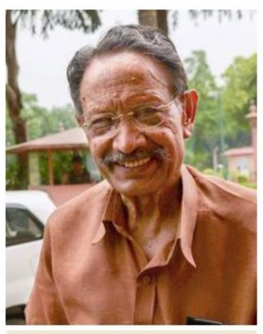
A Bench headed by Justice B.V. Nagarathna issued notice to the Uttar Pradesh government, the State police, and the Union government for their response on a petition filed by Shakambhari, whose 60-year-old activist husband, Satyam Verma, was arraigned in three different first information reports, and slapped with the National Security Act to frustrate his chances for bail.

"The State has weaponised its police machinery to arbitrarily crush a legitimate labour agitation in Noida, Uttar Pradesh, shielding corporate entities from liability for rampant wage theft, and maliciously criminalising the working class and civil society members through dragnet criminal proceedings," advocates Shahrukh Alam and Paras Nath Singh submitted.

Former Union Highways Minister and Army veteran B.C. Khanduri passes away

The Hindu Bureau
DEHRADUN

Major-General B.C. Khanduri (retd), 91, who died from age-related ailments in Dehradun on Tuesday, donned several hats in his life. From soldier to parliamentarian, Union Minister and twice Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, he carried into public life the bearing of a military officer and built a reputation around restraint, integrity, and administrative rigour.


1934 – 2026

Mr. Khanduri was born in Dehradun in 1934, and his transition from the armed forces to politics in the early 1990s was not so much a leap as an extension of his belief in institutional order and public duty. He entered parliamentary politics from the Garhwal constituency and went on to become one of the BJP's most recognisable faces in Uttarakhand.

His national imprint was perhaps strongest during his tenure as Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways in the government led by Atal Bihari Vajpayee. He was closely associated with India's major highway expansion efforts, including the Golden Quadrilateral project, and was credited with helping advance a transformative phase in the country's infrastructure development.

As Chief Minister of Uttarakhand – a young State formed in 2000 and still defining its administrative identity – Mr. Khanduri governed with a reputation for strictness that earned both admiration and criticism. He pursued anti-corruption measures and sought to introduce systems aimed at strengthening transparency and accountability.

Politics, however, was not always kind to Mr. Khanduri's style of functioning.

His insistence on discipline and procedural order occasionally sat uneasily within the compromises of political life. Despite this, even his critics often acknowledged the personal austerity and integrity he brought to public office.

Mr. Khanduri, popularly known as "General Sahab", was widely respected across political lines. His demise has been condoled by politicians, activists, and people from all walks of life.

President Droupadi Murmu condoled Mr. Khanduri's passing and in a post on X, remembered him for his honest, simple, transparent, and development-oriented approach to public service.

Vice-President C.P. Radhakrishnan paid tribute to Mr. Khanduri. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a post on X that he made invaluable contributions that would always be remembered. Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami expressed grief over the death of the leader.

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अल्पकालिन ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 01 (सिविल)/2026-27
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INBRIEF

Sixth tiger dies of suspected CDV in M.P.'s Kanha Reserve

Another tiger has been found dead in Madhya Pradesh's Kanha Tiger Reserve (KTR), with the authorities suspecting it to be the sixth death within a month due to the canine distemper virus (CDV), which spreads through dogs. The six-year-old male tiger was found dead on Tuesday in compartment number 156 of Mohgaon beat under the Mukki range. KTR Deputy Director P. K. Verma told *The Hindu* that the initial findings of the post-mortem examination show a serious lung infection in the feline, prompting the suspicion of the presence of CDV, as well as some superficial injury marks.

HC seeks AAP leaders' reply in contempt proceedings

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday issued notice to Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leaders Arvind Kejriwal, Manish Sisodia, Durgesh Pathak, Sanjay Singh, Saurabh Bhardwaj, and others in the criminal contempt proceedings initiated over alleged scandalous social media campaign targeting Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma. A Bench of Justice Navin Chawla and Justice Ravinder Dudeja granted the respondents four weeks to file their response to the *suo motu* contempt case initiated against them by Justice Sharma. Meanwhile, Justice Manoj Jain of another Bench deferred the hearing on the CBI's appeal against the trial court verdict till May 25, noting that Mr. Kejriwal, Mr. Sisodia and Mr. Pathak, were unrepresented.

EPF details to be made available on WhatsApp

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has decided to allow the use of WhatsApp for subscribers to use various services, including viewing PF balances, last five transactions, and claim status. The service will be available to all subscribers of the EPFO within a month.

Talking to presspersons here on Tuesday, Union Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said the EPFO would also allow soon the use of UPI payment gateways to withdraw provident fund and transfer it directly to their bank accounts. He said the testing had been completed.

Fall in court cases

Mr. Mandaviya added that the EPFO's "dedicated missions" such as "*Nidhi Aapke Nikat* (NAN)" programme resulted in the decrease in the number of cases pending with various consumer courts.

A senior official said when a member sends a WhatsApp message to the EPFO asking for assistance, the EPFO would verify if the message was from the specific member's registered mobile linked with the Universal Account Number (UAN).

SC allows euthanasia of 'rabid, dangerous' dogs

The top court refuses to modify its November 7, 2025, order for removal of stray dogs from high-footfall public institutions; directs establishment of at least one ABC centre in every district

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to modify its November 7, 2025, order directing all States and Union Territories to ensure the removal of stray dogs from high-footfall public institutions, including educational institutions, hospitals, bus depots, and railway stations, while clarifying that such dogs cannot be "re-released" into these institutional areas even after vaccination and sterilisation.

A Bench of Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta and N.V. Anjaria observed that a "harmonious" reading of the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules, 2023, together with their parent statute, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, did not support the contention that stray dogs possess an "indefeasible or absolute right" to occupy or remain in all categories of public spaces irrespective of their nature or use.

"The right to live with dignity under Article 21 necessarily encompasses the right of every citizen to move freely and access public spaces without living under a constant apprehension of physical harm, attack or exposure to life-threatening events such as dog bites in public areas. The State cannot remain a passive spectator where preventable threats to human life continue to proliferate...," the Bench observed.

The top court says it cannot remain a passive spectator when preventable threats to human life continue to proliferate. FILE PHOTO

ABC centres

The court noted that there had been a "discernible absence of sustained, systematic and incremental efforts" on the part of States and Union Territories to expand and strengthen the infrastructure required to manage the steadily increasing stray dog population. Accordingly, the Bench directed States and Union Territories to establish at least one fully functional Animal Birth Control Centre in every district, equipped with adequate veterinary infrastructure, trained personnel and surgical facilities. It said the number of centres should be expanded, wherever necessary.

The court directed the States and Union Territories to ensure adequate availability of anti-rabies vaccines and immunoglobulin in government medical facilities and to establish effective public health response mechanisms to address dog-bite incidents. While underscoring that when the safety and lives of human beings are weighed against the interests and welfare of sentient beings, the "constitutional balance" must necessarily tilt in favour of the preservation of human life, the Bench also permitted municipal authorities to adopt legally permissible measures, including euthanasia in cases involving "rabid, incurably ill or demonstrably dangerous or aggressive dogs".

"In areas where the population of stray dogs has assumed alarming proportions and where incidents of dog bites or aggressive attacks have become frequent and pose a continuing threat to public safety, the concerned authorities may, subject to due assessment by qualified veterinary experts... take such measures as may be legally permissible, including euthanasia in cases involving rabid, incurably ill or demonstrably dangerous/aggressive dogs", the Bench said.

The court directed all High Courts to initiate *suo motu* proceedings to oversee compliance with its August and November 2025 directions.

Court chides Education Secretary over lapses in audit

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday criticised the Union Education Secretary for failing to comply with its earlier order directing the Centre to provide logistical support to a committee assisting the court in a matter concerning the audit of private universities.

A Bench of Justices Ahsanuddin Amanullah and N.V. Anjaria had earlier issued a contempt notice to Vineet Joshi, Secretary, Department of Higher Education, while hearing a matter relating to the implementation of its April 20 order directing the Centre to provide office space, stenographic assistance, and logistical arrangements to a panel headed by former Indian Legal Service officer R.M. Sharma.

"Mr. Joshi, why did you not take this matter seriously? Is this the manner in which orders of the Supreme Court are to be treated so lightly?" Justice Amanullah orally observed while addressing Mr. Joshi.

The observations were made during the hearing of a petition filed by a student of Amity University alleging harassment after she sought a change of name in university records.

NHRC asks Centre to review changes to trans law, 'revisit' concerns from community

Panel says students should be admitted to educational institutions based on self-identified gender

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The National Human Rights Commission of India has asked the Union government to "review" laws to "ensure gender inclusivity", including the most recent amendments to the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act.

The NHRC noted that the amendments removing transgender person's right to a "self-perceived gender identity" had caused concern among community members, adding, "It may be appropriate for the authorities to consider revisiting these concerns."

It has also recommended that the population enumeration phase of the ongoing Census 2027 exercise should include distinct categories for "intersex", "transmen", and "transwomen", so that accurate disaggregated data can be gathered and maintained.

Self-identification focus

In a detailed advisory issued on Monday, the NHRC said that transgender and gender-diverse students should be admitted to educational institutions based on self-identified gender, and recommended that elderly transgender persons be enrolled for identity certificates based on self-identification.

The new amendments removed a clause that codified transgender people's right to a "self-perceived gender identity", and provided for a medical process through which gender certificates are to be issued.

The Social Justice Ministry justified the change, claiming that "self-identification" was creating hurdles in identifying the "real beneficiaries".

The NHRC called for a review of other laws like the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, which it said should be amended to "incorporate gender-inclusive procedures and recognition of self-identified gender". It also called for reviewing the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act to "explicitly include gender non-conforming children", and provide for "gender-affirming placements".

Delhi court dismisses Umar Khalid's petition seeking bail for 15 days

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Tuesday dismissed an interim bail application filed by Umar Khalid, who had sought temporary release to attend the bereavement rituals of his uncle and assist his mother during her scheduled medical procedure on June 2.

Mr. Khalid has been in jail for over five years in the case on an alleged "larger conspiracy" behind the 2020 Delhi riots.

This comes a day after the Supreme Court voiced "serious reservations" about its January judgment refusing bail to Mr. Khalid and co-accused Sharjeel Imam, including the foreclosing of their right to seek bail for a year.

On Tuesday, Additional Sessions Judge Sameer Bajpai of the Karkardooma Courts rejected Mr. Khalid's request for a 15-day interim bail.

The court observed that previous instances in which Mr. Khalid and co-accused persons had been granted interim bail without violating conditions could not be treated as grounds for granting relief in every subsequent request.

The court further observed that attending the Chehlum ceremony of his uncle was not of such pressing necessity. "As far as the surgery of the mother of the applicant is concerned, the applicant has himself stated that he has five sisters. Although, as per the applicant, his sisters do not live nearby, they are definitely expected to come and help their mother," the court added.

Model Twisha Sharma's death: husband remains absconding as both families trade charges

The Hindu Bureau
BHOPAL

Samarth Singh, the husband of model Twisha Sharma, who recently died in Bhopal allegedly by suicide, remained absconding in a dowry harassment case.

Both the Sharma and Singh families traded charges about what may have led the 33-year-old to take her own life, and the model's kin demanded a second independent post-mortem examination.

Mr. Singh, a lawyer and the son of retired judge Giribala Singh who is also an accused in the case, has been at large since a first information report (FIR) was lodged on May 15. The police have announced a reward of ₹10,000 for information about him.

Navnidhi Sharma and Rekha Sharma, the parents of the deceased Twisha Sharma. PTI

On Monday, a local court rejected his plea for anticipatory bail, though it had been earlier granted to his mother, Ms. Singh.

Twisha was found hanging in her home on May 12. She was declared brought dead to the hospital, prompting doctors from AIIMS, Bhopal to alert the police. Based on allegations by Twisha's family, an FIR was lodged against Mr. Singh and his mother.

Twisha's sister-in-law Rashi Sharma accused Ms. Giribala Singh of "character assassination and attempts to defame the deceased", denying her claims about Twisha's mental health. The Sharma family has moved a local court demanding a second independent post-mortem examination suspecting that the first report "may be tampered with due to the influence of the accused family". "We are planning to move the High Court soon to seek an independent post-mortem," Ms. Rashi said.

Assistant Commissioner of Police, Misrod, Rajnish Kashyap, who is leading the SIT, said that multiple teams have been formed to nab Mr. Singh.

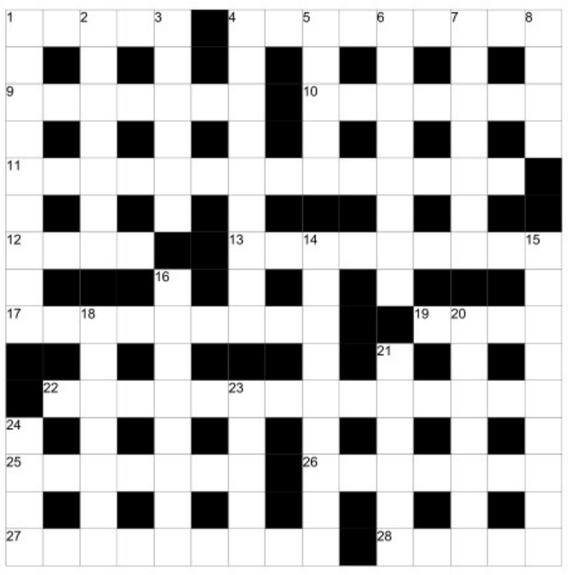
(For those in distress, counselling is available at TeleMANAS-14416)

TH CROSSWORD + 14798

(set by Gussalufz)

Solve this puzzle online and access more puzzles at *https://thehindu.com/crosswords*

SCAN TO PLAY



ACROSS

1. I.A.S.-mess-rejected paneer is cooked for groom (5)
4. Think, essentially during rehabilitating, dad's peer lost hope (9)
9. Therefore, time to get into fried roti and rice dish (7)
10. I caught hint of lightheartedness in tear-jerking piece (7)
11. "Am like this" statement of kinky person's sex life (4-10)
12. Has secretly grown stronger (4)
13. Internal communication terminals? Never send shocking letters (5,4)
17. Brought balance to English squad? Lie, unfortunately (9)
19. So savage, revolting! (4)
22. Typical daily routine, retired father's habit (14)
25. Muslim League Dr. regularly rejected separation theory? (7)
26. Call mum, son's misbehaving (7)
27. Thought Tendulkar initially did umpiring all around (9)
28. Jam? Badgers not sure (5)

DOWN

1. Whisper: "Is cop ethically carrying navy instrument?" (9)
2. Greek character cycled solo, drinking sip after exercising (7)
3. Tune cocktail, adding minute bit of ground spice (6)
4. Dung drips, pong spreads (9)
5. Film mount (5)
6. Cadet, set target somewhat westward; confirmed? (8)
7. Nocturnal creature gallivanting on a croc (7)
8. Outstanding tenor song (4)
14. Put right colour on unfinished sweet after flipping (9)
15. Arrays of small pipes constraining toilet area (9)
16. Philanthrope, gangster, one inspired by faith (8)
18. Never listened to you (reportedly) and her frolicking (7)
20. Fury wife unleashed on staff, blowing top for dirty room (7)
21. Stabilise tree stump, cutting 40% off (4,2)
23. Around peak of Olympus, encountered heavenly sight (5)
24. Feature gains depth deleting tense reference entry (4)

SUDOKU

1		7			5		6	4
3	5				2	8		
			1					
4	3			1		9		6
			3		4			
8		1		9			4	3
					9			
		2	6				3	8
5	7		2			6		1

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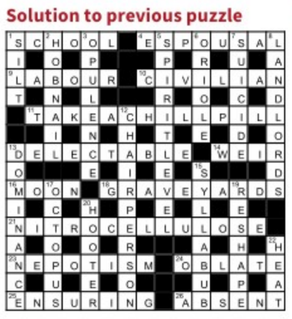
DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle



Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

5	6	4	9	1	7	8	3	2
1	7	3	2	8	5	6	9	4
2	8	9	3	6	4	7	5	1
9	5	6	7	2	8	1	4	3
8	3	1	6	4	9	2	7	5
4	2	7	5	3	1	9	8	6
3	1	5	8	9	6	4	2	7
7	4	8	1	5	2	3	6	9
6	9	2	4	7	3	5	1	8

FAITH

Continuous meditation

Abhirami Bhattar's meditation on Ambal was continuous. It is difficult for us to focus on something. Even if we turn our thoughts towards God, it is with a view to reaping some immediate benefits. If we do not see any results at once, we give up meditating on God altogether. But Abhirami Bhattar never gave up his meditation, said M.A. Manickavelu in a discourse. Bhattar knew that constant worship would liberate him from the cycle of births and deaths. That focus, and the belief that meditation will help are necessary for meditation to bring us rewards.

There is a story about a man who began to dig a well in his land. He dug 10 feet and when there was no trace of water, he began to dig in another place. Here too he found no water at a depth of 10 feet. He then moved on to yet another place, and so on, until he had dug six wells each of 10 feet depth. His efforts went to waste, because there was no water in any of the wells. But another man dug in one place, and was not bothered when he found no water at 10 feet or even 50 feet. He went on digging, until he found water at a depth of 60 feet. The first man had also dug up to 60 feet, although not in one place. The cost to both was the same, but while the persevering man had a well full of water, the impatient man had nothing to show for his expense. Intermittent meditation will be like the efforts of the impatient man. Bhattar says *anbar koottam thannai villen*, meaning he will not part from the devotees of Abhirami. She is the *antaryami* present inside everyone in this world and beyond. She is sweet like honey and like nectar. The joy that you get when you worship Her is intoxicating.

INBRIEF

Rupee slips 50 paisa to 96.7, lowest-ever versus U.S. Dollar

The rupee descended for the eighth consecutive session and ended 50 paise down at lowest-ever level of 96.70 against the U.S. dollar on Tuesday, weighed down by soaring crude oil prices, persistent foreign capital outflows and a resilient dollar buoyed by global risk-aversion. Rupee, Asia's worst-performing currency, has lost ₹2.48 or 2.64% versus the greenback in the past eight sessions since the closing level of 94.22 recorded on May 7. Forex traders attributed the domestic currency's steep fall to rising crude oil prices and global supply chain disruptions due to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. PTI

Adani Enterprises stock up 1% as U.S. drops bribery charges

Adani Enterprises' stock improved 1.3%, closing at ₹2,725 a share, a day after the U.S. Department of Justice dropped charges of bribery against the group and its promoters for a settlement. The stock opened at ₹2,734.70 a share, hit a high of ₹2,774.50, and slipped to ₹2,697.00 before reaching the day's close. The stock was trading over 2% above the previous close, but a generally sobering market sentiment due to the Iran-U.S. conflict may have pared some gains for the Apple to airports conglomerate's flagship stock. Shares of other group companies Adani SEZ and Ports, Adani Green or Adani Power, did not gain.

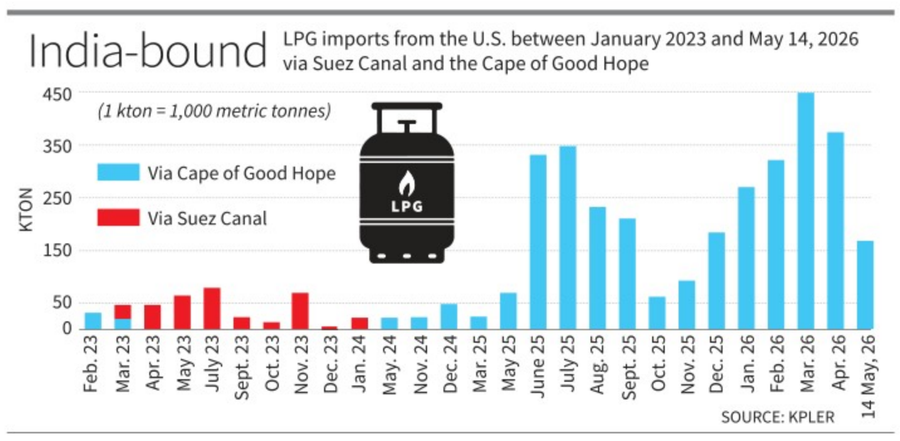
India meets record peak power demand of 260.45 GW

Amid rising power demand with soaring temperatures across the country, India was able to meet a peak power demand of 260.45 GW during solar hours at 3:40 p.m. on Tuesday, the Union Power Ministry informed. This surpassed the previous peak of 257.37 GW scaled on Monday. According to ministry data, thermal accounted for 61.5% of the power generated at the peak hour, solar 22%, wind 6.7%, hydro 5.3% and nuclear 2.7%. "This capacity to deliver on rising power demand is not a story of overnight transformation but one of sustained focus on generation, transmission and distribution over the past few years," the ministry said.

LPG: Ship scarcity hits U.S. imports

In March, 4.5 lakh LPG shipments left the U.S. for India, up from 3.2 lakh and 2.7 lakh tonnes in previous months, as per data from Kpler; subsequent months saw shipments drop to 3.72 lakh tonnes and 1.67 lakh tonnes due to less carrier availability

Kalyanaraman M.
Debayan Tewari
CHENNAI



With the Persian Gulf, from where 60% of India's LPG consumption came shut, the U.S. has emerged as a major LPG supplier. In March, 4.5 lakh LPG shipments left the U.S. for India, up from 3.2 lakh and 2.7 lakh tonnes in previous months, as per data from Kpler, a source of global trade intelligence. India imported nearly 10 lakh tonnes in March.

In April, however, shipments that left the U.S. for India dropped to 3.72 lakh tonnes and for the half-month in May, it was 1.67 lakh tonnes, as per Kpler.

The reason for less lifting in subsequent months, shipping experts say, is less gas carrier availability due in-part to ships taking the Cape of Good Hope route around Africa rather than the shorter Suez Canal route. "U.S-India voyages via Suez Canal have been absent since January 2024, dropping in the aftermath of the increase in Houthi attacks on commercial shipping in the Red Sea waterway since end of 2023.

The preference for the Cape of Good Hope route is more likely driven by risk management, avoiding any elevated risk insurance premiums and the potential for renewed security threats in the Red Sea/Bab el-Mandeb area, where commercial shipping has previously faced disruptions," says a Kpler statement mailed to *The Hindu*.

LPG ships are being re-routed to the U.S. which is much farther away from Persian Gulf for major markets such as India, Japan and China. "Around 40% of US-Asia LPG cargoes are now being re-routed via the Cape of Good Hope. This has materially increased tonne-mile demand, adding 20 days or more to voyage durations, effectively tightening vessel availability and pushing freight rates sharply higher across all major routes," says Manish Sejwal, senior vice president for commodity markets at Rystad Energy.

'More priority for LNG'

Mr. Sejwal talks of Panama Canal congestion as well. The reason for that is increased Liquified Natural Gas ship crossings. LNG ships have more priority than LPG ships at the canal, resulting in LPG carrier congestion.

India had built a conveyor belt of ships serving the Persian Gulf with some 20 Indian-flagged ships it could command at will.

This number was sufficient for round-trips from Qatar to Mumbai that would take some 10 days, and 20 days for Kolkata. But for 90-day U.S. voyage round trips, India needs several times more Indian-flagged LPG carriers to serve Indian needs smoothly.

While India has sent four of its Very Large Gas Carriers (VLGC) that returned from Persian Gulf after the war started to the U.S., it has had to ramp up its command of foreign-flagged ships, too. India is picking up more spot cargoes and hence the drop in arrivals from United States Gulf Coast, say experts.

Maintaining crude oil stock for over a month: IOCL

Saptaparno Ghosh
NEW DELHI

Indian Oil is maintaining crude oil stock for more than a month, while inventories of liquified petroleum gas (LPG) have been affected though they too are being maintained to ensure that are adequately available across the country, its Director of Finance Anuj Jain told investors in an analyst call on Tuesday.

"We do not have any shortage of either crude oil or LPG. Crude oil inventories are still being maintained for over a month," Mr. Jain stated, adding, "LPG inventories has come down but it is still being managed so that we have enough LPG availability on a pan-India basis."

Mr. Jain informed investors that the Delhi-headquartered refiner had also diversified spot procurement of natural gas from Indonesia, Nigeria, Angola and Oman.

Ease business norms, Norway firms tell PM

Suhasini Haidar
OSLO

Mr. Modi and Mr. Støre at the India-Norway business summit.

India can improve 'ease of doing business' by streamlining regulatory frameworks and addressing 'ground level challenges', Norwegian industry leaders told PM Narendra Modi at the India-Norway Business and Research Summit held here on Tuesday.

The event was part of Mr. Modi's day-long bilateral agenda in Norway, where he and Norwegian PM Jonas Gahr Store met about 250 participants, including CEOs of 50 firms, where Indian and Norwegian businesses signed 19 B2B Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs). Mr. Store, turned to a few businesspersons from each side to speak about their experiences and ways in which processes could be improved.

SC tells SpiceJet to move HC for relief

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court asked SpiceJet to move the Delhi High Court for extension of time to deposit ₹144 crore in connection with a dispute with media baron Kalanithi Maran and Kal Airways.

Appearing before a bench, Spicejet counsel, senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi said the West Asia crisis impacted the airline's operations and finances and sought three months to deposit the amount.

StanChart to cut over 7,000 jobs globally by 2030 on AI

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

British bank Standard Chartered (StanChart) as part of its plans to 'invest ahead of long-term trends [automation, AI] to maintain strong growth, boost productivity, further improve the quality of earnings, and maximise competitive advantages' is cutting more than 7,000 corporate jobs globally in the next four years.

"We will continue to apply disciplined workforce planning, aided by a reduction in corporate function roles of 15% by 2030. We are scaling practical uses of automation, advanced analytics and artificial intelligence to streamline processes, improve decision-making and enhance both client service and internal efficiency," the bank said.

Standard Chartered logo is seen in this illustration.

Those impacted will be from the pool of 52,000 people who work globally in corporate functions. The lender has a total global workforce of 82,000.

The move will lead to staff cuts in India as well.

The lender has an employee base of more than 30,000 in India in corporate functions and Global Business Service division.

Though the exact number of job cuts in India is not known, those affected will be re-skilled and re-deployed. But there is no official confirmation on this.

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS - TIRUPATI
CHIEF EDITOR OFFICE — e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

Roc.No. TTD-95021(31)/03/2026-Chief Editor — Dt: 18.05.2026

e-Tenders are invited for supply of **Pre-Gumming Address Label Blank for Chief Editor Office, TTD**, for a period of one year. For Tender notice and details please log on to the web site **http://www.tirumala.org**.and **http://tender.ap.eprocurement.gov.in**. For further details contact phone numbers: **0877-2264543, 2264363**.

TTD-40021(31)/1/2026-PRO SEC(Adv.No.51) Date:19-05-2026 — **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

KMML — The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking) Sankaramangalam, Kollam 691583
Phone: 0476-2651215 to 217 e-mail: md@kmml.com
TENDER NOTICE

For more details please visit E-Tendering Portal, https://etenders.kerala.gov.in or www.kmml.com

No.	Tender ID	Item
1.	2026_KMML_851022_1	For Supply of Zirconium Ortho Sulphate-15 MT
2.	2026_KMML_851365_1	Supply of 1 MT Polypropylene Jumbo Bags
3.	2026_KMML_849948_1	Revamping of PIT type furnace 8x60 kW =480 kW
4.	2026_KMML_851731_1	Supply of spare parts for N301 acid fume scrubber
5.	2026_KMML_851738_1	Supply of Stretch Wrapping Film-5175 kg

Chavara 19.05.2026 — *Sd/-* Managing Director for The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd.

AJMER VIDYUT VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED
Corporate Identification Number (CIN)- U40109RJ2000SGC016482
Regd. Off.: Vidyut Bhawan, Panchsheel Nagar, Makarwali Road, Ajmer- 305 004, (TURN-KEY WORKS CIRCLE)
Phone: +91-145-2644507, Fax:+91-145-2644507, E-mail :- setwavvnl2022@gmail.com, Website :-www.avvnl.com

No. :- AVVNL/SE (TW) /XEN (TW-II)/AEN (TW-I)/NIT /TN-465/LRC/D. 233 — Date :- 14/05/2026

NIT No/ PACKAGE No.:- AJD/SE/TW/TN-465 (Lot-1 to 7)

'E Bids in two parts (Techno Commercial bid and Price Bid) are invited from eligible contractors for short term NIT against package nos. AJD/ SE/ TW/TN-465 (Lot-1 to 7) for awarding contract of construction of various 33/11 KV GSS and associated 33KV & 11 KV line and Erection of New 33 KV line interconnections on Labour Rate for Deedwana-Kuchaman/ Bhilwara/ Pratapgarh/ Sikar/Banswara under domain of Ajmer Discom. **UBN :- AVV2627WSOB00015**

All the details regarding tender is available at our website **http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/avvnl and www.eproc.rajathan.gov.in.** Further in future corrigendum/extension, if any shall be published only at **www.eproc.rajathan.gov.in.**

Raj.Samwad/C/26/3083 — **Superintending Engineer (TW) AVVNL, Ajmer**

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SUNABEDA.
email : serwsbd2003@yahoo.com

Letter No.: 2309 — Date:15/05/2026

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH GePNIC e_Procurement Notice

1. Name of the Work : **Construction of Road Works - 16 Nos.**
2. Class of Contractor : **"B" Class & "A" Class of (Odisha PWD) or relevant class of other licensing authority.**
3. Estimated Cost : **Various from Rs.121.40 Lakhs to Rs.487.59 Lakhs (Approximately)**
4. Details of projects : As per Annexure attached.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender online for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender Technical Bid	Financial Bids
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sunabeda	**CCERWCSBD - Online - 19/2026-27**	**20.05.2026 at 11.00 A.M.**	**09.06.2026 up to 05.00 P.M.**	**08.06.2026 up to 2.00 P.M.**	**10.06.2026 at 11.00 A.M.**	**To be intimated separately**

5. The details of works can be seen from the web site : **https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in**
6. Any Corrigendum / Addendum will be displayed in the above e-tender web site.

Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sunabeda.
25001/174/2627 — OIPR-25001/25182/1/26-27/0020

क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय (केरल)/REGIONAL OFFICE (KERALA)
कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम/Employees' State Insurance Corporation
(Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India)
Panchdeep Bhavan, North Swaraj Round, Thrissur-20
web: www.esic.gov.in | Ph.0487-2331080/ 2331351/ 2331412/ 2331437 (Ext-208)

ടെൻഡർ അറിയിപ്പ്/बोली आमंत्रण सूचना/ NOTICE INVITING BID

ESIC केरल के क्षेत्रीय निदेशक, लक्षद्वीप के कवरत्ती, अगाती और मिनिकॉय द्वीपों में ESIC MITRA सेवाओं को लागू करने के लिए मानवशक्ति और हार्डवेयर की भर्ती हेतु GeM पोर्टल पर ऑनलाइन बोली आमंत्रित करते हैं।

Regional Director, ESIC Kerala invites online bid in GeM portal for hiring manpower and hardware to implement ESIC MITRA services in the Kavaratti, Agatti and Minicoy islands of Lakshadweep.

GeM Bid Number	Last Date & Time	Bid Opening Date & Time
GEM/2026/B/7498964	09-06-2026 (01:00 PM)	09-06-2026 (01:30 PM)

बोली दस्तावेज़ों/अधिक विवरण के लिए, कृपया GeM पोर्टल पर जाएं।/For bid documents/more details please visit GeM portal (www.gem.gov.in).

19.05.2026 — **-Sd-**
तृश्शूर/Thrissur — **क्षेत्रीय निदेशक/Regional Director**

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
विक्रम साराभाई अंतरिक्ष केंद्र / VIKRAM SARABHAI SPACE CENTRE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण ग्रूप / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP
तिरुवनंतपुरम / THIRUVANANTHAPURAM – 22 / (फोन नं. / Ph. No. 0471 – 2564568 / 5669 / 4537 / 4545)

दिनांक/Dated : 19-05-2026

ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करते हुए संक्षिप्त सूचना / BRIEF NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से निम्नलिखित कार्य के लिए ई-टेंडरिंग द्वारा ऑनलाइन मद-दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। On behalf of the President of India, online item-rate tenders are invited through E-tendering for the following work.

1. 70 एकड़, वीएसएससी, तुंबा में एनजीएलवी कार्यालय के लिए एसटीएस भवन (चौथी मंज़िल) का ऊर्द्धाधर विस्तार (सिविल तथा विद्युत कार्य) / Vertical Extension of STS Building (Fourth Floor) for NGLV Office at 70 Acres, VSSC, Thumba (Civil & Electrical works) / **NIT No. VSSC/CMG/C01/07/2026-27 Dt. 18.05.2026 (पी.ए.सी./P.A.C: ₹ 543.06 लाख/Lakhs)**

डाउनलोड करने की अवधि / Period for downloading: दिनांक 20.05.2026 को 10.00 बजे/hrs. से/to दिनांक 09.06.2026, 23.00 बजे/hrs.

इच्छुक निविदाकार ब्यौरों के लिए www.tenderwizard.in/isro या www.isro.gov.in देखें। Interested tenderers may visit www.tenderwizard.in/isro or www.isro.gov.in for details.

Sd/- प्रधान, सीएमजी, वीएसएससी / Head, CMG, VSSC

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Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Thiruvananthapuram invites application for M.Tech. Courses in

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- Contribute to Live Projects of National Significance in the area of:
  - *India Microprocessor* ■ *Strategic & Medical electronics* ■ *Cyber forensics etc.*
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- Practical Oriented Industry Elective designed by C-DAC Scientists
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- Open to Gate and Non-Gate candidates & working professionals

Apply Directly to Institute, Last Date : 30th June, 2026

ER&DCI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Academic wing of C-DAC, Thiruvananthapuram
Govt. of India. Ph: 8547897106, 0471-2723333 (Ext. 3324/3250)
Website: *https://www.erdciit.ac.in* **e-mail: *erdciit@cdac.in***

TAMIL NADU FIBRENET CORPORATION LIMITED (TANFINET)
(A Government of Tamil Nadu Undertaking)
Door No. 807, 5th Floor, P.T.Lee Chengalvarayan Naicker Trust, Anna Salai, Chennai- 600002.
Phone No. 044-28888230 / e-mail Id: tanfinet.hq@tn.gov.in

Advertisement

TANFINET Corporation, State Implementing Agency (SIA) for BharatNet Phase-II Project in Tamil Nadu, requires qualified & experienced candidate for the post as mentioned below on Contract basis (purely temporary).

S.No	Name of Posts	Remuneration per month (in Rs.) (Consolidated Pay)	No of post
1.	Manager (Network Planning)	Upto Rs.1,00,000/-	1
2.	Manager (NOC)	Upto Rs.1,00,000/-	1
3.	Manager (HR)	Upto Rs.1,00,000/-	1

General Information: 1.For details regarding qualification, experience, general conditions, prescribed application formats etc., please refer detailed notification available in Tamil Nadu Government website **https://tanfinet.tn.gov.in** -> Careers page or **www.tn.gov.in** 2.Candidates will apply online through **https://tanfinet.tn.gov.in/pages/view/careers** website in English only. No other means/mode of submission of applications including manual/paper will be accepted under any circumstances. 3.Candidate should note that the TANFINET will in no case be responsible for rejection of application on account of application being incomplete, whatsoever. 4.The applicants can start applying online registration form from **20.05.2026 at 12:30 PM** and last Date for Submission of the Online Application form in the Corporation is **05.06.2026 by 05:00 PM.** 5.For any clarifications regarding the online filling of the form, the candidate can contact through email: tanfinet.hq@tn.gov.in or Landline: **044 28888230.**

DIPR/426/DISPLAY/2026 — **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

By E_Mail/e-Despatch: E_Mail ID: serw_balasore@yahoo.in; Ph-No-06782/260318, Balia,Balasore
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BALASORE
"e" - Procurement Notice for Bridge Work
Identification No.- Online Tender- Bridge NCB No.04 for 2026-27
Letter No: - 2254 / WE Date. 14/05/26

1. Name of the Work : **Bridge Works**
2. Total No. of Work : **As per annexure**
3. Estimated Cost : **As per annexure**
4. Eligible Class of Contractor : **As per annexure**
5. Period of Completion : **As per annexure**
6. Other Details :-

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O C.C.E., R.W.Circle, Balasore Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Balasore.	**NCB No.- 04 of 2026-27**	**25.05.2026 at 11.00 A.M.**	**11.06.2026 Up to 5.00 P.M.**	**10.06.2026 Up to 5.00 P.M.**	**12.06.2026 at 11.00 A.M.**	**Will be intimated later**

- Further details can be seen from the website : www.tendersodisha.gov.in

S/d- Er.Durjyodhan Behera
Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Balasore.
25001/185/2627 — OIPR-25001/25105/1/26-27/0004

State Project Management Unit, Department of Rural Development, Government of Uttarakhand (SPMU-RD),
Uttarahaat, Sahastradhara Road, Near IT Park, Dehradun - 248001
Contact Details: 0135-6633451, **ddugky.ukrd@gmail.com**
Letter No.: 86/N/36/DDU-GKY2.0/2026 **Date: 19/05/2026**

Expression of Interest (EoI) for PIAs under DDUGKY 2.0 Scheme

SPMU-RD, Govt. of Uttarakhand under **Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) 2.0** of the MoRD, GoI invites **online applications from PIAs** for undertaking **training and placement** interventions for rural poor youth of Uttarakhand, aligned with current and emerging market demand.

State Project Approval Committee (PAC) shall be the final authority for sanctioning or rejecting projects, based on the merit of proposals and in accordance with the **DDU-GKY 2.0 Program Guideline, SOP.**

Interested PIAs **having a Permanent Registration Number (PRN) issued by MoRD, GoI** may access the detailed EoI on the Integrated Portal: **https://kaushal.rural.gov.in/** and submit applications online through the portal **on or before 10th June 2026.**

For eligibility criteria and other related details, applicants are advised to refer to the DDU-GKY 2.0 Program Guidelines, SOP.

Sd/-
(Anuradha Pal), IAS
Project Director
DDU-GKY, SPMU-RD
Govt. of Uttarakhand

JERUSALEM

Israel Finance Minister says ICC seeks arrest warrant against him

AFP

Israel's far-right Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich said on Tuesday that the International Criminal Court prosecutor had requested an arrest warrant against him. Mr. Smotrich accused the Palestinian Authority of pushing for the latest judicial procedure, calling the moves against him "a declaration of war". AFP

LAGOS

Nigeria says its joint strikes with the U.S. have killed 175 IS militants

AFP

A joint operation against Islamic State militants by Nigeria and the United States has killed 175 of the militants over the past few days, the Nigerian military said on Tuesday. It added that the strikes also destroyed weapons, checkpoints and financial networks of the militants across the northeastern region of the country. AP

BEIJING

China denies Xi told Trump that Putin 'regrets' invasion of Ukraine

REUTERS

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun on Tuesday denied suggestions that President Xi Jinping told his American counterpart Donald Trump during his visit that Vladimir Putin might "regret" his invasion of Ukraine. "The information you mentioned does not match the facts and is completely fabricated," he said. AFP

PARIS

European Union denounces new U.S. waiver of Russian oil sanctions

REUTERS

The European Union criticised on Tuesday the latest U.S. waiver of sanctions on Russian oil, announced while G-7 Finance Ministers were meeting to tackle multiple economic challenges. "From the EU point of view, we do not think that this is a time to ease pressure on Russia," EU economics commissioner Valdis Dombrovskis said. AFP

U.S. may need to attack Iran again if no deal is reached, says Trump

'I'm saying two or three days, maybe Friday, Saturday, Sunday, maybe early next week, a limited period of time, because we can't let them have a new nuclear weapon,' says U.S. President; Iran state media call Trump's pause a 'retreat' based on 'fear'

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump said on Tuesday that the U.S. may need to hit Iran again and he was only an hour away from deciding on a strike before he postponed the attack.

"I was an hour away from making the decision to go today," Mr. Trump told reporters at the White House.

He said Iran's leaders are "begging" to make a deal, but a new U.S. attack would happen in the coming days if a deal is not reached. "Well, I mean, I'm saying two or three days, maybe Friday, Saturday, Sunday, something, maybe early next week, a limited period of time, because we can't let them have a new nuclear weapon." "There seems to be a very good chance that they can work something out. If we can do that without bombing the hell out of them, I'd be very happy," Mr. Trump said at the White House on Monday evening, after first making the announcement in a social media post.

Locked and loaded: Damage at a fishing pier, reportedly due to the U.S.-Israeli air strikes, in the port of Qeshm island in Iran. AP

He said America's allies in the Persian Gulf asked him to wait for two to three days because they feel they are close to a deal with Iran. Mr. Trump has been threatening for weeks that the ceasefire reached in mid-April could end if Iran did not make a deal, with shifting parameters for striking such an agreement. Over the weekend he warned, "For Iran, the Clock is Ticking, and they better get moving, FAST, or there won't be anything left of them."

Shortly after Mr. Trump's post, Iranian state TV called it a "retreat" based on "fear" in its broadcast ticker and on its X account.

It reported earlier that defence systems were activated late Monday on Qeshm Island in the Strait of Hormuz. It added the situation was "under control" there, the largest Iranian island in the Persian Gulf, home to about 150,000 people and a water desalination plant.

Iran has effectively closed the Strait of Hormuz, a vital waterway for the shipment of oil, gas, fertilizer and other petroleum products.

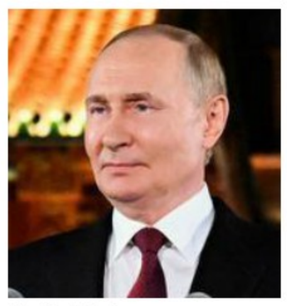
Putin trip aims to show ties with China unshakeable

Agence France-Presse
BEIJING

Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived in Beijing late on Tuesday for talks with his Chinese counterpart and "long-time good friend" Xi Jinping, intending to show their ties are unshakeable days after a visit by Donald Trump.

The confirmation of Mr. Putin's trip came just hours after Mr. Trump wrapped up his visit on Friday, the first by a U.S. President to China in nearly a decade and one aimed at stabilising their turbulent relations.

Mr. Putin and Mr. Xi are set to discuss how to "further strengthen" Russia and China's strategic partnership and "exchange views on key international and regional issues", according to a Kremlin statement.



Vladimir Putin

Their ties have deepened since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, with Mr. Putin visiting Beijing every year since as his country is diplomatically cut off on the world stage.

Unequal relationship

But the two countries' relationship is far from equal, with Moscow heavily dependent economically on Beijing, the main buyer of sanctioned Russian oil.

Among topics Mr. Xi and Mr. Putin could discuss is construction of the major "Power of Siberia 2" natural gas pipeline from Russia to China through Mongolia – a land alternative to crude imported by sea from the West Asia – which Moscow is keen to get under way.

Setting warm tones for the visit, the two leaders exchanged "congratulatory letters" on Sunday to mark 30 years of their countries' strategic partnership. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun lauded on Tuesday "the enduring friendship between China and Russia".

The two leaders are also expected to sign a joint declaration after the talks.

U.S.-Iran negotiations need 'more time' to reach deal, says Qatar

Agence France-Presse
DOHA

Qatar said on Tuesday that U.S.-Iran negotiations, mediated by Pakistan, required more time to reach a deal, a day after President Donald Trump said he had postponed planned attacks to give the process a chance.

"We are supportive of the diplomatic effort by Pakistan that has shown seriousness in bringing parties together and finding a solution, and we do believe it needs more time," Qatari Foreign Ministry spokesperson Majed al-Ansari said at a press conference.

On Monday, Mr. Trump said that he had suspended the attack after the leaders of Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates asked him to give negotiations a chance.

Majed al-Ansari

"We want to protect the people of the region from being basically the main losers of any escalation in the region," Mr. al-Ansari said.

Police investigating mosque shooting in U.S. as hate crime

Agence France-Presse
SAN DIEGO

Police were investigating a shooting in the U.S. state of California as a hate crime on Tuesday after a pair of teenage gunmen killed three persons at a mosque complex.

Tearful women emerged from a centre set up to reunite families caught up in the shooting, and yellow police tape blocked access to the Islamic Centre of San Diego, where the victims were found on Monday.

Police said emergency response teams found the victims, all men, outside the sprawling complex, before later finding the shooters, aged 17 and 18, dead in a car from apparent self-inflicted gunshot wounds.

"We are actively investigating this as a hate crime," San Diego Police Chief Scott Wahl told pressperson. "There was definitely hate rhetoric that was involved."

The Islamic centre describes itself on its website as the largest mosque in San Diego County, which is in southern California.

Mr. Wahl said a security guard at the Islamic centre was among the three victims, adding that his response had helped prevent a deadlier attack.

"His actions were heroic, and he undoubtedly saved lives today."

WHO worried about 'scale and speed' of deadly Ebola outbreak as 131 killed

Agence France-Presse
KINSHASA

The World Health Organization on Tuesday voiced concern about the "scale and speed" of an Ebola outbreak that has killed an estimated 131 people in the Democratic Republic of Congo and warned it could be lengthy.

The UN health agency has declared the surge of the highly contagious haemorrhagic fever an international health emergency and called an urgent meeting on the crisis.

No vaccine or therapeutic treatment exists for the Bundibugyo strain of Ebola which is responsible for the outbreak declared in the east late last week.

A woman washes her hands at the Grande Barrier border, following confirmation of an Ebola outbreak in Goma, on Monday. REUTERS

Ebola has killed more than 15,000 people in Africa in the past half-century.

With the recent cases largely concentrated in difficult-to-access areas hit by long-running conflicts, few samples have been laboratory-tested and figures are based mostly on suspected cases.

"We have recorded roughly 131 deaths in total and we have around 513 suspected cases," Congolese Health Minister Samuel Roger Kamba said.

"The deaths we are reporting are all the deaths we have identified in the community, without necessarily saying that they are all linked to Ebola."

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said he was "deeply concerned about the scale and speed of the epidemic".

Speaking from the DRC, Anne Ancia, the WHO's representative, told pressperson in Geneva that a vaccine candidate called Ervebo was among those being looked at but it was likely to take at least "two months for it to be available".

The DRC's deadliest Ebola outbreak, between 2018 and 2020, claimed nearly 2,300 lives from 3,500 cases.

TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF ANDHRA PRADESH LIMITED
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TENDER NOTICE

The **APTRANSCO** invites on-line bids for Spec No.PMM23-e-33/2026 "for supply of 27Nos 50MVA 220/33kV PTRs in 3 Lots (ie., Lot-1: 9Nos., Lot-2- 9Nos. and Lot-3: 9Nos.) for utilization in Augmentation & Construction works at various substations of **APTRANSCO.** Date and time of availability of tender **20.05.2026 by 17:00 Hrs.** Further details can be seen in website(s): **www.apeprocurement.gov.in**, For further details Contact No.**9491030732.**
R.O.No.GMCC/APTRANSCO/38/26-27 **Sd/- Chief Engineer/Transmission**

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal only)
No.: CEE/Tr.(Op)Z/KLB/SEE(O)/AEE-2/2026-27/2464,2488,2452,2476 & 2329
Date: 18.05.2026

KPTCL, Transmission(Operations) Zone, Kalaburgi, Invites bids from the eligible bidders for the following bid enquiry no's.

1.KPTCL/2026-27/SS/66kVKudligi12.5MVA Enhancement, Dt: 16.05.2026, Enhancement of 6.3 MVA, 66/11Kv Power Transformer by 12.5MVA 66/11Kv Power Transformer at 66/11Kv Sub-station, Kudligi in Kudligi Taluk, Vijayanagara District. Call-4.

2.KPTCL/2026-27/SS/110kVKudithini, Dt:16.05.2026, Providing additional 1x10 MVA, 110/11 kV Transformer at 110/11 kV Sub-station Kudithini in Ballari Taluk. Ballari Dist. including supply of equipments/ materials, erection testing & commissioning on PTK basis (major materials such as Power Transformer, 11kV Switchgear will be supplied by KPTCL). Call-2.

3.KPTCL/2026-27/SS/66kVGudekote12.5MVA Enhancement, Dt: 16.05.2026, Enhancement of 6.3 MVA, 66/11Kv Power Transformer by 12.5MVA 66/11Kv Power Transformer at 66/11Kv Sub-station, Gudekote in Kudligi Taluk, Vijayanagara District. Call-4.

4.KPTCL/2026-27/TL/GudekoteLILO, Dt: 16.05.2026, Re-construction of existing 66Kv Coyote **LILO** Line by Drake LILO on 110Kv DC Towers from existing 66Kv **Badaeladaku (Kudligi) Hanagal SC line** (Proposed DC Line) to the existing **66/11Kv Gudekote** S/s for a distance of **1.890Kms** in Kudligi Taluk, Vijayanagara District (including Dismantling and civil works) of all materials/ equipments. Call-3.

5.KPTCL/2026-27/SS/SirigeriCross, Dt: 16.05.2026. Replacement of existing 2x10MVA. 110/11kV by 2x20MVA, 110/11kV Power Transformer and providing additional MCVCB switchgear at 110kV Sirigeri Cross S/s in Siruguppa Taluk, Ballari Dist. on Partial Turnkey Basis. Call-4.

The bids will be received through KPP Portal mode only. The detailed notification regarding subject enquiries can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL Website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with Hyperlink **"E Procurement KPTCL"** or to **https://kppp. karnataka.gov.in** on or after **20.05.2026.** For further details, contact office of the undersigned during office working hours.

Sd/- Chief Engineer(Electy.,), Transmission (Operations)Zone, KPTCL, Prasarana Bhavan, Sedam Road, Kalaburagi.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. DIVISION, GADAG.
Office of the Executive Engineer PWD Division, Gadag.
Phone No: 08372-238782 Fax No. 08372-237268 E.Mail-eepwdgad@gmail.com
No: EEPWDGDG PB- 1 2 :Diferent Head : 2026-27/592 **Date: 19/05/2026**

Tender Notification

The Executive Engineer, Public works department. Division, Gadag invites item wise tenders from eligible tenderers of 04 work of total amount of **Rs 420.00 Lakh** (Min estimate amount: **Rs-10.00 Lakh**s to Max Estimate Amount: **300.00 Lakh**s) for the Different Head of account on behalf of the Hon'able Governor of Karnataka as per Standard Bid Document KW- 1 , 3 and 4, through **http:// www. kppp. Karnataka. gov.in/**
"Work Indent No:- Part-1" 32781-Cat-I/Call-2
(a) Last Date for Clarification up to : **25-05-2026 (b)** Last Date for Receipt of Tenders : **26-05-2026 Noon 4.00 PM (c)** Opening of Technical Bid Date:- **27-05-2026** Financial Bid Date:- **29-05-2026**
"Work Indent No:- Part-2" 36008,
(a) Last Date for Clarification up to : **02-06-2026 (b)** Last Date for Receipt of Tenders **03-06-2026 Noon 4.00 PM (c)** Opening of Technical Bid Date:- **04-06-2026** Financial Bid Date:- **05-06-2026**
"Work Indent No:- Part-3" 23872-SC, 35774,
(a) Last Date for Clarification up to : **06-06-2026 (b)** Last Date for Receipt of Tenders **08-06-2026 Noon 4.00 PM (c)** Opening of Technical Bid Date:- **09-06-2026** Financial Bid Date:- **10-06-2026**
GST shall be paid separately as per prevailing Government Order. The increase in GST shall not be paid in the extended period of contract for which the contractor alone is responsible for delay as determined by the authority while granting the extension of time.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
P.W.D .Division, Gadag.
DIPR/Gadag/74/DeshpandePublicity/2026-27

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
My client has disowned their son Sh. Neeraj Kumar Gaur, presently residing at Flat No.2643, Tower F, Gaur City, 7th Avenue, Krishna Chowk, GH-16C, Gaur City-1, Sector-04, Greater Noida, Ghaziabad, U.P-201318, due to the unrespectful behavior towards the family.
My clients have severed all connections, relations, ties, and association with their son and have also disowned him from all their movable and immovable properties. Sh. Neeraj Kumar Gaur shall have no right, claim, or interest in any of the properties owned or inherited by my client, whether self-acquired or received by way of gift or otherwise, in any manner whatsoever.
Any act done or committed by Sh. Neeraj Kumar Gaur in the past, present, or future, and any person dealing with him, shall be doing so at their own risk and consequences. Sh. Chunni Lal and his family shall not be responsible, in any manner whatsoever, for any act or deed committed by their son, Sh. Neeraj Kumar Gaur.
CHETAN ANAND YADAV (Advocate)
House No. 11, Main Market
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NEEDLESS PRESSURE

'I feel sad for players who go to podcasts and talk what they think'

FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

Virat Kohli warned players against making big claims on podcasts. "I feel quite sad for players who go to podcasts and talk what they think. Then they come to competitions and find themselves in tremendous pressure because you've said something you have to live up to," he said at the RCB Innovation Lab Indian Sports Summit.

DOUBLE BLOW

De Kock and Bawa to miss remainder of IPL 2026

EMMANUAL YOGINI

MI wicketkeeper-batter Quinton de Kock and pace-bowling all-rounder Raj Angad Bawa were on Tuesday ruled out of IPL 2026 due to injuries. De Kock has been on the sidelines with a tendon injury in his left wrist. Bawa, meanwhile, suffered a ligament tear in his right thumb during MI's previous match against PBKS.

AGARKAR'S BACKING

'Prince has the necessary skills to succeed with the white ball'

FILE PHOTO: R.V. MOORTHY

Prince Yadav has shown a lot of promise through the domestic season. I think he had a really good Vijay Hazare Trophy. Obviously, bowled well in the IPL. But we have seen that he has grown a lot as a bowler over the last year or so and has the necessary skills to succeed with the white ball — Ajit Agarkar, chief selector.

RACE AGAINST THE CLOCK

Will act accordingly if Rohit and Hardik are not fit in time: Agarkar

FILE PHOTO: EMMANUAL YOGINI

If they tell me a certain guy is fit, I have to trust that person when we pick him. And maybe in two weeks' time, if we are told that those two guys (Rohit Sharma and Hardik Pandya) haven't quite made it fitness-wise, we will take a call accordingly. I just go by what the physio tells me — Ajit Agarkar.

Sooryavanshi's stunning knock takes Royals closer to playoffs

The teen sensation smashes 93 off just 38 balls to set up a facile win; stand-in skipper Jaiswal and Jurel also get going in the chase; LSG openers Marsh and Inglis' fireworks in vain; a victory over MI would seal the Rajasthan side's qualification

IPL-19

P.K. Ajith Kumar
JAIPUR

That boy. He has done it again.

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi came up with another sensational innings to power Rajasthan Royals to a seven-wicket win over Lucknow Super Giants in a must-win IPL 2026 tie at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium on a warm Tuesday night. His 93 off 38 balls (7x4, 10x6) helped the Royals chase down the target of 221 with five balls to spare.

A win against Mumbai Indians in their last match on Sunday in Mumbai will take them to the playoffs. The victory against LSG in front of a full house came after three defeats in a row.

And those thousands of fans were fortunate to witness that incredible show by Sooryavanshi.

Breathtaking stuff

It was breathtaking stuff, truly. The way he hit sixes into the stands, on either side of the wicket, was something you very rarely get to see.

There was this six over extra-cover off Prince Yadav, which he followed it up with a hit deep into the stands over mid-wicket. And before that, there was this ramp shot against the same bowler: there was a touch of genius about that stroke.

Sooryavanshi's innings came to an end when he was caught at long- on off Mohsin Khan, who would have heaved a sigh of relief as he failed to run the batter, earlier in the over, despite having all the time in the world.

Early burst

The wunderkind, however, had done his job. It was Yashasvi Jaiswal, the stand-in captain, that first provided the fireworks in Royals' chase. He hammered a 23-ball 43 (8x4, 1x6) and put on 75 for the first wicket with Sooryanvashi, who then was involved in a 105-run association with Dhruv Jurel (53 n.o., 38b, 3x4, 3x6) that would more or less ensure Royals' easy victory.

Earlier, Mitchell Marsh's 96 (57b, 11x4, 5x6) and his opening wicket stand of 109 with fellow Australian Josh Inglis (60, 29b, 7x4, 3x6) helped LSG to 220 for five after being put in.

Losing momentum

The visiting side failed to keep the momentum though, and a superb final over from Jofra Archer saw it lose three wickets for an addition of five runs.

Then, that boy took centrestage. And how.

SCOREBOARD

LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS
Mitchell Marsh run out 96 *(57b, 11x4, 5x6)*, Josh Inglis b Yash Raj 60 *(29b, 7x4, 3x6)*, Nicholas Pooran c Ferreira b Yash Raj 16 *(11b, 2x6)*, Rishabh Pant run out 35 *(23b, 2x4, 2x6)*, Abdul Samad (not out) 0 *(0b)*, Ayush Badoni b Archer 0 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-3, nb-1, w-9) 13; Total (for five wkts. in 20 overs): 220.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-109 (Inglis, 8.2 overs), 2-151 (Pooran, 12.2), 3-215 (Pant, 19.1), 4-220 (Marsh, 19.5), 5-220 (Badoni, 19.6).

ROYALS BOWLING
Archer 4-0-39-1, Sushant 4-0-46-0, Sandeep 3-0-43-0, Brijesh 4-0-44-0, Yash Raj 4-0-35-2, Shanaka 1-0-10-0.

RAJASTHAN ROYALS
Yashasvi Jaiswal c Pant b Akash 43 *(23b, 8x4, 1x6)*, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi **(Impact Player for Yash Raj)** c Samad b Mohsin 93 *(38b, 7x4, 10x6)*, Dhruv Jurel (not out) 53 *(38b, 3x4, 3x6)*, Lhuan-dre Pretorius run out 7 *(6b)*, Donovan Ferreira (not out) 16 *(10b, 1x4, 1x6)*; Extras (lb-3, w-10): 13; Total (for three wkts. in 19.1 overs): 225.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-75 (Jaiswal, 6.3), 2-180 (Sooryavanshi, 13.6), 3-196 (Pretorius, 16.2).

SUPER GIANTS BOWLING
Akash 3-0-54-1, Mohsin 4-0-31-1, Mayank 4-0-50-0, Prince 4-0-43-0, Digvesh **(Impact Player for Inglis)** 4-0-38-0, Shahbaz 0.1-0-6-0.

Toss: RR; **PoM:** Sooryavanshi.
Royals won by seven wickets with five balls remaining.

Points table

	M	W	L	NR	PTS	NRR
Royal Challengers (Q)	13	9	4	0	18	1.065
Gujarat Titans (Q)	13	8	5	0	16	0.400
Sunrisers Hyderabad (Q)	13	8	5	0	16	0.350
Rajasthan Royals	13	7	6	0	14	0.083
Punjab Kings	13	6	6	1	13	0.227
Chennai Super Kings	13	6	7	0	12	-0.016
Delhi Capitals	13	6	7	0	12	-0.871
Kolkata Knight Riders	12	5	6	1	11	-0.038
Mumbai Indians (E)	12	4	8	0	8	-0.504
Lucknow Super Giants (E)	13	4	9	0	8	-0.702

Q: Qualified | **E:** Eliminated

Next assignment

LSG: May 23 vs. PBKS
Lucknow, 7.30 p.m.

RR: May 24 vs. MI
Mumbai, 3.30 p.m.

Sooryavanshi smashed seven fours and 10 sixes
The left-hander added 75 with fellow-opener Jaiswal
Jurel guided Royal home with an unbeaten 53

Simply exquisite: Sooryavanshi and Marsh produced an exhibition of incredible hitting. R.V. MOORTHY

Rahul renamed vice-captain for one-off Test against the Afghans

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

K.L. Rahul has been reappointed vice-captain of India's Test squad, while the spin duo of Manav Suthar and Harsh Dubey along with lanky pacer Gurnoor Brar have earned their maiden Test call-ups for the one-off Test against Afghanistan to be played at New Chandigarh from June 6 to 10.

Prince Yadav, one of the standout performers of the ongoing Indian Premier League season, has received his maiden ODI call-up for the three-match series to follow beginning on June 14. The senior national selection committee, chaired by Ajit Agarkar, met in Guwahati on Tuesday to pick the squads.

"There are a couple of guys who are injured who were part of the one-day squad before. With Gurnoor, we have seen a lot of promise over the last season and a half now. Tall guy with a bit of pace," Agarkar said. "Keeping the South African World Cup in mind, we are obviously going to try a few guys who at that point might be useful if they keep developing," he added.

The Test squad does not feature Jasprit Bumrah and Ravindra Jadeja, with both players having been rested, as clarified by Agarkar during a virtual media interaction. Rahul thus replaces Rishabh Pant as vice-captain. Pant has also lost his place in the ODI squad to Ishan Kishan, although Agarkar stressed that there was "no doubt" over Pant's credentials as a match-winner in Test cricket. "KL has been Test captain before. Rishabh was vice-captain and we want him to be the best batter that he can be. So, no, there is no other reason," Agarkar said.

Apart from Jadeja, Axar Patel is another notable absentee from the squads. Agarkar said Jadeja remains the No. 1 spinner for Tests.

Rahul.
FILE PHOTO: RITU RAJ KONWAR

"Jadeja has just been rested for this Test. He is aware of it. That's why he is not in the team. He still remains a very integral part of the Test team. We know what Jadeja or Axar can do.

"This is the time we try and give some opportunity to some of the other guys. Wth regards to Tests, he still remains our number one spinner," Agarkar said.

Rohit Sharma and Hardik Pandya, both dealing with fitness concerns during the ongoing IPL, have been included in the ODI squad for the series starting June 13, subject to fitness clearance.

The squads: One-off Test: Shubman Gill (Capt.), K.L. Rahul (Vice-capt.), Yashasvi Jaiswal, B. Sai Sudharsan, Rishabh Pant (wk), Devdutt Padikkal, Nitish Kumar, Washington Sundar, Kuldeep Yadav, Mohammed Siraj, Prasidh Krishna, Manav Suthar, Gurnoor Brar, Harsh Dubey, Dhruv Jurel (wk).

The dates: June 6 to 10 (New Chandigarh).

ODI: Shubman Gill (Capt.), Shreyas Iyer (Vice-capt.), Rohit Sharma*, Virat Kohli, KL Rahul (wk), Ishan Kishan (wk), Washington Sundar, Kuldeep Yadav, Hardik Pandya*, Prince Yadav, Prasidh Krishna, Harsh Dubey, Gurnoor Brar, Arshdeep Singh, Nitish Kumar. (* subject to fitness clearance).

The schedule: June 14 (Dharamshala), June 17 (Lucknow), June 20 (Chennai).

'Knew that selectors were closely watching'

Vivek Krishnan
NEW DELHI

Gurnoor Brar came to know of India's squad for the one-off Test against Afghanistan just like the vast majority: via the BCCI's social media post a little after 4 p.m. on Tuesday. Never mind that Gurnoor was one of the 15 members chosen for the red-ball assignment in New Chandigarh.

Following his maiden Test call-up, there were no imminent plans for a grand celebration on his part.

"I'm just about to head out for training with Gujarat Titans," the right-arm pacer from Punjab told *The Hindu* over the phone with a chuckle.

The 25-year-old, who stands at an imposing 6'5", has been rewarded for possessing attributes that appear ideal for the classical version.

Having been involved in the India-A set-up since September 2025, Gurnoor, whose First Class record reads 52 wickets in 18 appearances, sensed he was on the radar of the national selectors.

"I knew the selectors were closely watching. It was in my mind that I could get a chance," he revealed.

The desire to don the whites at the highest level has spurred Gurnoor from the outset.

"Playing Test cricket for India has been my biggest dream. It is a prestigious format," he stated. "I bowl a hard length, swing the ball away and get extra bounce."

Gurnoor. K. MURALI KUMAR

For the past two months, Gurnoor has been warming the bench for Titans in IPL 2026.

But if he feels a sense of familiarity upon joining up with the Indian team, he will have his IPL franchise to thank. Besides skipper Shubman Gill's presence across both teams, Gurnoor can lean on the camaraderie he has built with fellow pacers Mohammed Siraj and Prasidh Krishna at GT.

"I keep talking to Siraj and Prasidh. They are like big brothers," Gurnoor said. "Siraj's advice has been to bowl at full tilt in the nets, and analyse mistakes during the sessions".

Nabi was close to Test call-up, says Agarkar

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

Ajit Agarkar, the chief selector of India's men's cricket team, has stated that Mohammed Shami was not considered for the Afghanistan series since the veteran pacer is ready only for T20 cricket for now. Agarkar also mentioned that Auqib Nabi came very close to his maiden Test call-up.

"As far as we have been told, at this point, his body is allowing him to [play only the shortest format]... I know he has played the domestic season this year. But the information that I have got is that at this point, T20 cricket is what he is ready for. So, there was no discussion regarding Shami's selection," Agarkar said on Tuesday.

With Harshit Rana and Akash Deep injured and the selectors deciding to rest Jasprit Bumrah, Auqib Nabi - the Jammu & Kashmir medium-pacer who was one of the stars of the Ranji Trophy season - was expected to earn a maiden call-up to the Test squad. However, the selectors went for Gurnoor Brar as the back-up pacer.

" You do not necessarily pick a lot of seamers when you pick a Test team in India. And Nabi was close," Agarkar said.

KKR has everything to play for as it faces MI

KKR will be keeping a close eye on Varun's fitness. K.R. DEEPAK

Y.B. Sarangi
KOLKATA

Kolkata Knight Riders, one of the five teams vying for the remaining solitary playoff berth, will try to exact revenge on Mumbai Indians at the Eden Gardens here on Wednesday and stay alive in IPL 2026.

KKR must have regained some self-belief after defeating Gujarat Titans in its previous outing.

The host, which has struggled through the season due to injuries to its key players, will be keeping a close eye on spinner Varun Chakaravarthy and pacer Matheesha Pathirana. Varun bowled against GT despite nursing a foot injury while Pathirana pulled his hamstring midway through an over in the same match.

Sunil Narine, who not only dries up runs but also provides crucial breakthroughs, has been KKR's trump card. All-rounder Cameron Green is a decent back-up seamer, while left-arm pacer Saurabh Dubey provides variety.

With opener Finn Allen rediscovering his touch, Angkrish Raghuvanshi and Green making healthy contributions, and Rinku Singh performing well in the middle-order, KKR would be secure about its batting.

However, skipper Ajinkya Rahane will be expected to raise his game.

The already-eliminated MI will be without any pressure as its sole motive will be to win the remaining two games and finish on a high. A side, which has logged several impressive totals and consists of destructive batters such as Ryan Rickelton, Rohit Sharma, Tilak Varma and Sherfane Rutherford, should make life difficult for the KKR bowlers.

Regular skipper Hardik Pandya could return to the XI.

With an attack comprising Jasprit Bumrah, Deepak Chahar, Shardul Thakur, Corbin Bosch and A.M. Ghazanfar, in addition to Hardik, MI can dent KKR's remote chances.

The home team needs to produce something special to check MI and keep its fans happy.

Today's match

Kolkata, 7.30 p.m.

HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: 36
KKR 11 | MI 25

PREVIOUS MEETING
MI won by six wickets, 2026

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 & JIOHOTSTAR

INBRIEF

Taijul claims four, Bangladesh closes in on series sweep

Left-arm spinner Taijul Islam claimed four wickets as Bangladesh moved within three wickets of a series sweep against Pakistan after reducing the tourist to 316 for seven on the fourth day of the second Test in a chase of 437 at Sylhet. Mohammad Rizwan was batting on 75 with Sajid Khan on eight at stumps.

The scores: Bangladesh 278 & 390 in 102.2 overs vs Pakistan 232 & 316/7 in 86 overs (Rizwan 75 batting, Masood 71, Agha 71, Taijul 4/113).

Wrist injury forces Alcaraz to withdraw from Wimbledon

Carlos Alcaraz's hopes of regaining his Wimbledon title have been dashed with the two-time champion announcing on Tuesday he is withdrawing as he recovers from a wrist injury. "Unfortunately I am not yet ready to play and that is why I am obliged to withdraw from both Queen's and Wimbledon," said Alcaraz, who lost to world No. 1 Jannik Sinner in last year's final. "These are two really special tournaments for me and I'll miss them a lot. We'll keep working to come back as soon as possible." Alcaraz sustained the injury during the first round of the Barcelona Open and subsequently pulled out of tournaments in Madrid and Rome.

Smooth sailing for Siddharth and Mahitha

Top seeds Siddharth S. Nair and Mahitha Naidu Surisetty progressed safely to the singles round-of-64 at the Yonex-Sunrise State sub-junior ranking badminton tournament in Vijayapura on Tuesday. Siddharth defeated Vaibhava Sai Gowda 21-9, 21-10 while Mahitha overcame Sejal V. Davaskar 21-8, 21-10.

Gouthama FC gets the better of Misaka United

Gouthama FC edged out Misaka United FC 2-1 in a Group-1 match of the BDFA C-division league football championship in Bengaluru on Tuesday.

Other results: Group-1: Indiranagar FC bt Maharaja Socials FC 3-0; **Group-2:** J Sports FC bt Town Club Hoskote 2-1; Jai Bharath Nagar bt Bangalore Muslims 5-0; **Group-3:** Rovers FC bt Queens Star FC 2-0; 515 Army Base Workshop FC bt Oriental FC 1-0.

LIVE TELECAST

Bangladesh vs Pakistan: 2nd Test, Day 5, FanCode, 9.30 a.m.
IPL: Star Sports 1 & JioHotstar, 7.30 p.m.
Europa League (final): Sony Sports Ten 2 & LIV, 12.30 a.m. (Thursday).

WC: Neymar back for Brazil

Agence France-Presse
RIO DE JANEIRO

Neymar was handed a dramatic recall to Brazil's World Cup squad on Monday, returning to the national team after a near three-year absence.

The squads: BRAZIL: Goalkeepers: Alisson, Ederson, Weverton; **Defenders:** Alex Sandro, Danilo, Leo Pereira, Bremer, Douglas Santos, Gabriel Magalhaes, Ibanez, Marquinhos, Wesley; **Midfielders;** Bruno Guimaraes, Casemiro, Danilo, Fabinho, Lucas Paqueta; **Forwards:** Endrick, Gabriel Martinelli, Igor Thiago, Luiz Henrique, Matheus Cunha, Neymar, Raphinha, Rayan, Vinicius Junior.
PORTUGAL: Goalkeepers: Diogo Costa, Jose Sa, Rui Silva, Ricardo Velho; **Defenders:** Diogo Dalot, Matheus Nunes, Ruben Dias, Nelson Semedo, Joao Cancelo, Nuno Mendes, Goncalo Inacio, Renato Veiga, Tomas Araujo; **Midfielders:** Ruben Neves, Samu Costa, Joao Neves, Vitinha, Bruno Fernandes, Bernardo Silva; **Forwards:** Cristiano Ronaldo, Joao Felix, Francisco Trincao, Francisco Conceicao, Pedro Neto, Rafael Leao, Goncalo Guedes, Goncalo Ramos.
SCOTLAND: Goalkeepers: Craig Gordon, Angus Gunn, Liam Kelly; **Defenders:** Grant Hanley, Jack Hendry, Aaron Hickey, Dom Hyam, Scott McKenna, Nathan Patterson, Anthony Ralston, Andy Robertson, John Souttar, Kieran Tierney; **Midfielders:** Ryan Christie, Findlay Curtis, Lewis Ferguson, Ben Gannon-Doak, Billy Gilmour, John McGinn, Kenny McLean, Scott McTominay; **Forwards:** Che Adams, Lyndon Dykes, George Hirst, Lawrence Shankland, Ross Stewart.

Don't want to be dependent on cricket all my life: Kohli

Let's see what happens in a few years' time and where life takes me, says the superstar at the RCB summit; the 37-year-old feels longevity across formats is the the true marker of a player

IPL-19

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Once he leaves the cricket field, Virat Kohli believes in disconnecting from the sport.

The India and Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) star is keen to follow this direction once his playing days come to an end.

"I, for one, am not in a space where I want to have more things connected to cricket beyond my playing days. I don't want to be dependent on cricket all my life, because there's so much more to understand, learn and grow with," Kohli said at the third edition of the RCB Innovation Lab Indian Sports Summit, here on Tuesday.

"This should not be the only limiting factor, at least in my experience. Let's see what happens in a few years' time and where life takes me," Kohli, who plays only ODIs for India, said at the Padukone-Dravid Centre for Sports Excellence.

The instant fame and financial windfall that comes with performing in the IPL carries massive appeal, but not so for Kohli. The 37-year-old explained that the true marker of a cricket career is longevity across formats.

"A lot of people relate drive to money nowadays. For me, it's not the only factor. When a format that gives you the hype, recognition, fame by scoring 40 or 50 runs in 20 balls – and the kind of money that people can make in the IPL today – it can put you in a very comfortable space. It can make you say 'This is brilliant. I don't need to handle pressure for too long. I can just go out there and smash the ball'," Kohli said.

"Or, you can say, I want to play for 15-20 years. I want to get the recognition and respect of the cricketing world, of my own heroes. That's a very different zone. You have to be very driven to say, 'I'm going to commit to this for the next 10-15 years. It is going to be very, very hard but I'm all for it'," Kohli said.

Two of a kind: Kohli interacts with badminton ace Sindhu. K. MURALI KUMAR

Pragg splits points with So, stays joint second

Press Trust of India
BUCHAREST

Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa played out his fourth draw, signing peace with Wesley So in the fifth round of the Super Chess Classic, a part of the Grand Chess Tour.

Vincent Keymer maintained his half-point lead, moving up to 3.5. Praggnanandhaa shares the second spot with Anish Giri and Jorden Van Foreest.

Maxime Vachier-Lagrave and So share fifth place on 2.5 points each, while Fabiano Caruana and World Championship challenger Javokhir Sindarov trail closely on two points, with the latter having one game in hand.

Bogdan-Daniel Deac is in ninth on 1.5 points, a half point ahead of Alireza Firouzja.

In the other games of the day, Keymer drew with black against Giri, Vachier-Lagrave shared the point with van Foreest, Sindarov drew with Firouzja, and Deac held Caruana to a draw.

The results (round 5): Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (2.5) drew with Jorden Van Foreest (3); Wesley So (2.5) drew with R. Praggnanandhaa (3); Bogdan-Daniel Deac (1.5) drew with Fabiano Caruana (2); Aiireza Firouzja (1) drew with Javokhir Sindarov (2); Anish Giri (3) drew with Vincent Keymer (3.5).

Wildcard entrant Manish puts it across top seed Smith

TENNIS

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Wildcard entrant Manish Sureshkumar stunned top seed Keegan Smith 6-4, 2-6, 6-2 in the first round of the S.M. Krishna Memorial Open at the S.M. Krishna Tennis Stadium here on Tuesday.

Manish, the World No. 737, pulled off the biggest win of his career, against Karnataka Open ATP Challenger winner Smith.

"I'm kind of getting used to the level now, because the pace is different," Manish, who reached the quarterfinal of the Karnataka Open last week, said.

"I think he had the pressure, not me, because I was the underdog. I decided that I'm going to play freely – go for my shots, and not give away easy points," Manish added.

Great going: Manish pulled off the biggest win of his career. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Kriish Tyagi, who made a semifinal run last week, defeated Kuan-Yi Lee 7-6 (8), 7-6(4).

Mukund Sasikumar and Sidharth Rawat also notched up victories.

The results (Indians unless specified): Round-of-32: Alastair Gray (Gbr) bt Aradhya Kshitij 6-1, 6-2; Leo Vithoontien (Jpn) bt Digvijaypratap Singh 6-3, 6-4; Mitsuki Wei Kang Leong (Mas) bt Karan Singh 5-7, 6-3, 6-2; Mukund Sasikumar bt Maximus Jones (Tha) 7-6(5), 7-6(5).

Hamish Stewart (Gbr) bt Aditya Vishal Balsekar 6-4, 6-7(2), 6-4; Kriish Tyagi bt Kuan-Yi Lee (Tpe) 7-6(8), 7-6(4); Ilya Ivashka bt Prajwal Dev 6-3, 6-2.

Manish Sureshkumar bt Keegan Smith (USA) 6-4, 2-6, 6-2; Sidharth Rawat bt Omar Jasika (Aus) 7-6(4), 6-3; Naoya Honda (Jpn) bt Nitin Kumar Sinha 6-4, 6-1.

From drift to direction: Carrick's United revival

Natalia Hannah Rice

Manchester United's season had taken on a familiar, unsettled quality when Michael Carrick stepped into the managerial role in January. The dismissal of Ruben Amorim, following months of inconsistent results and mounting discontent, had left the club once again at an uncertain crossroads, a position it has occupied with uncomfortable regularity in the years since Sir Alex Ferguson's retirement.

United's resurgence under Carrick has drawn inevitable parallels with Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's interim spell in 2018-19. Both former United players inherited sides midway through troubled campaigns and restored optimism through improved results, with Solskjær winning 14 of his first 19 games and guiding United to a sixth-place finish before earning the role permanently.

Carrick has brought with him a clarity of purpose. AFP

Carrick's impact, while less frenetic in style, has been similarly significant. United, sixth in the Premier League table when he assumed charge, has since registered 11 victories from 16 matches and collected 36 points. The team has shown greater defensive discipline and a more coherent structure in possession. Kobbie Mainoo, among others, has flourished under the renewed confidence that has taken hold at Carrington.

The season's most significant outcome has already been secured. A third-place finish in the Premier League guarantees United's return to the UEFA Champions League, no small achievement for a side that spent much of the campaign adrift from its stated ambitions.

The club's hierarchy has moved to formalise the arrangement. Carrick has signed an initial two-year contract through 2028, with the option of a further year, terms that reflect measured confidence rather than unconditional endorsement, given the scale of the task ahead.

Whether this marks the beginning of a sustained recovery remains uncertain. Solskjaer too revived optimism during his early months at Manchester United. The question now is whether Carrick can build something more enduring than what Solskjaer ultimately managed.

BBL in Chennai — franchise cricket takes a new direction

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

Sometimes, when you refuse to go to the mountain, they will bring the mountain to you. Australia's Big Bash League (BBL), the second-most successful T20 franchise tournament after the Indian Premier League (IPL) will see its inaugural match of the season being played in Chennai in December. This is a business decision rather than a sporting one, and yet it might be the start of something. Perhaps franchise cricket worldwide looking for a foothold in the Indian market.

India don't let their players participate in franchise tournaments abroad – to retain the IPL's exclusivity as well as to protect players from burnout. R. Ashwin, who was to have played for Sydney Thunder last year post-retirement, had to pull out owing to an injury.

Playing part of a domestic league in another country is not uncommon. Sydney and London have hosted America's Major League Baseball. The NFL's London and Germany games were successful. The second IPL season was played in South Africa. Fans abroad fill stadiums, merchandise sales rise, and the leagues strengthen their global profile. It can be a marketing dream. Yet, imagine a CSK match being played in Melbourne. How will the fans, the 'whistle podus' take it? When the Spanish football federation decided to play a LaLiga match (Villarreal vs. Barcelona) in the US last year, opposition grew from fans of the teams as well as the Spanish Football Supporters' Association and the idea was dropped. The fans expressed their "absolute, total and firm opposition" to the plan. The counter-argument was that it was one match of the season's 380, and the gains far outweighed the drawbacks. Fans don't always have a say in sport, but they could.

Playing abroad does distort the home advantage, and clearly prioritises commercial interests over those of the supporters. There is the travel burden too. Yet, when you consider that commercial interest is the bedrock of franchise cricket, it all seems natural, even inevitable.

It is also further confirmation that the natural habitat of sport is not the local stadium, but television (or wherever you watch your sport live). Cricket's version of the philosophical question is: Has a match taken place when it is not on television? Stadiums accommodate a few thousand, while television viewership is in the millions. Venues are becoming increasingly irrelevant; TV cameras have ensured that.

The BBL's India-ward glance is more than an awareness-spreading move. In recent months, Cricket Australia (CA) has been contemplating selling stakes in its six teams to foreign investors, much like The Hundred in England did and T20 franchises in countries from South Africa to the West Indies have done. The cricket board had posted a loss of AUD 11.3 million in 2024-25. Opposition from New South Wales and Queensland scuppered that move initially, but the CA is probably hoping to make an offer they cannot refuse.

India's interest in the sport – in terms of fans, finance, venues, television interest – is of such a magnitude that it effectively runs world cricket. The interest shown by the BBL is hardly unique. Already IPL owners also own some twenty other T20 franchises around the world besides four in The Hundred.

The CA's original plan was to have more games in India, although it is difficult to see much enthusiasm from the Board of Control for Cricket in India for this.

Taking the argument to its extreme, if the IPL and the BBL come together (albeit at different times of the year), both stand to lose. In 2023-24, the viewership in India for the BBL was 55 million, not a huge number, but the channel which broadcasts both might have a greater say in this than either cricket board! But we are getting ahead of ourselves here, valid though it is, if we see this match as a foot in the door.

In any case, the details are yet to be worked out by the two cricket boards. Will guest players from India be allowed to play in the Chennai match to garner local interest? Those familiar with the conditions, perhaps (although franchise regulars have enough experience there)? What is at stake for the BCCI? Is it merely a PR exercise or will the pound of flesh be claimed later? And when will Ahmedabad come into the picture, as it always seems to?

Arsenal on the verge of Premier League glory

Agence France-Presse
LONDON

Arsenal is on the brink of ending a 22-year wait to win the Premier League after beating Burnley 1-0 on Monday to open up a five-point lead at the top.

Kai Havertz headed in the only goal but was also lucky to avoid a second-half red card that could have swung the title race back in Manchester City's favour. Arsenal will secure the title with victory at Crystal Palace on Sunday.

However, the narrow margin of victory against a Burnley side that has long since been relegated does offer City hope.

An Arsenal draw at Selhurst Park would allow City to snatch the title on goal difference if Pep Guardiola's team wins its final two matches.

Rising high: Havertz towers over the Burnley defence to head home Arsenal's winner. AP

Roared on by an expectant capacity crowd in its final home game of the season, Arsenal was tipped to put the Clarets to the sword with ease.

The result: Arsenal 1 (Havertz 37) bt Burnley 0.